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Destruction of OTR-22 Missiles Completed
LD2607164189 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—The Soviet side eliminated today shorter-range missiles OTR-22, provided for by the INF Treaty. Under the treaty, the elimination of these missiles is to be completed by the end of November 1989. This is the second category of Soviet missiles fully destroyed during the treaty's operation. The first—intermediate-range land-based cruise missiles—was destroyed in the USSR last autumn.

USSR-U.S. Consultative Commission Ends Work
LD2607165589 Moscow TASS in English 1556 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Geneva July 26 TASS—A regular session of the Soviet-U.S. Standing Consultative Commission closed here today.

The commission was established in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the governments of the USSR and the United States of December 21, 1972, to promote the agreements concluded between the USSR and the United States on the limitation of strategic arms and measures to reduce the risk of outbreak of nuclear war.

The Soviet and the U.S. commissioners agreed to begin the work of the next session of the Standing Consultative Commission on November 1, 1989, in Geneva.

Progress at Soviet-U.S. Nuclear, Space Talks
LD2607215189 Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Geneva July 26 TASS—In recent days the delegations at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons here concentrated on such questions as limiting sea-based long-range cruise missiles, heavy bombers and their weapons, and mobile ICBM launchers. Work continued to agree on provisions pertaining to control observance of a would-be treaty on the 50-per cent cuts in strategic offensive weapons.

The sides were able to achieve progress in agreeing on the provisions of the protocol on inspections pertaining to the procedure for controlling the plants producing strategic offensive arms.

President Bush's Nuclear Arms Views Examined
PM2607112889 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 89 Second Edition p 4

[G. Korniyenko article: "A Legitimate Question"]

[Text] It is well known that U.S. President G. Bush set forth his approach to relations with the Soviet Union on 13 May of this year at Texas [A&M] University. The content of this speech, as well as his administration's subsequent practical steps, inevitably prompt questions about the U.S. President's real intentions. Is he planning to proceed along the path of curbing the nuclear arms race, or does he intend to slow down this process and even give new impetus to the race?

On the one hand the President states that "the time has come to move away from the strategy of deterrence and make the transition to a new policy," and on the other, NATO decisions emphasize that in the foreseeable future there is no alternative to the strategy of deterrence, the cornerstone of which is reliance on nuclear weapons. So there is a paradox: They talk about moving away from the strategy of nuclear deterrence, while continuing to adhere to it. But in practice the paradox in this formula seems to be resolved easily—the first part is left hanging in the air, the second part is put into practice.

Having at last agreed to resume talks with the USSR on nuclear and space arms in mid-June (incidentally, originally, by agreement with the former administration, their resumption was scheduled for mid-February), the American side, as is well known, came to the talks with a stance that is by no means designed for rapid progress, but rather to complicate the talks seriously. It behaved in a similar fashion at the recently resumed talks on nuclear tests.

The majority of American political observers are inclined to perceive in this hardening of U.S. positions on questions relating to nuclear disarmament not simply tactical considerations of some kind, but rather the even greater adherence of G. Bush to nuclear weapons, as compared with R. Reagan in the last years of his presidency.

It is well known that the mutual understanding in principle that was reached between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan at their first meeting in Geneva in 1985, that "nuclear war should never be unleashed, there can be no winners," was of key significance in achieving a change for the better in Soviet-American relations and securing the first practical results along the path to nuclear disarmament.

It is therefore only natural to ask: What is G. Bush's view on this fundamental problem, does he fully share this approach to nuclear war as offering victory to no one and being totally unthinkable? A clear answer to this question would do much to help clarify the present American Administration's intentions on the specific questions that are the subject of Soviet-American talks.

As far as I know, there have been no statements by G. Bush on this fundamental problem recently. But what about the past? I remember one episode from his political biography.

At the very beginning of the 1980 election campaign, when G. Bush was still a contender for the Republican Party nomination for president, he was interviewed by American journalist Robert Shearer. In reply to a question from the latter as to whether the further buildup of strategic arms is pointless when both sides already have the capacity to destroy each other many times over, G. Bush said: "Yes, if you believe that there is no such thing as the winner in a nuclear exchange, that argument makes some sense. I do not believe that."

In reply to R. Shearer's astonished question as to how you can win a nuclear war, G. Bush explained, with some irritation at the journalist's lack of understanding, that to do this you have to ensure the survival of command and control systems, the preservation of some of your industrial potential, and the protection of a certain percentage of the population, and you have to have the capability to do more damage to the opposing side than it can do to you.

When the still incredulous journalist asked G. Bush to specify what percentage of the population, in his opinion, could survive—whether it would be, say, 5 or 2 percent, the answer came: "More than that. If each side fires everything he has, a larger percentage of the population will survive."

This interview with G. Bush, published in the LOS ANGELES TIMES on 24 January 1980, caused rather a sensation. At first he and his aides tried to deny that R. Shearer had expounded G. Bush's remarks correctly—saying that in talking about the possibility of victory in a nuclear war he was setting forth not his own view, but his understanding of the Soviet Union's position.

But R. Shearer still had the tape of the interview, from which it was unequivocally clear that he had set forth absolutely accurately G. Bush's remarks (as they are quoted above) in connection with the possibility of victory in a nuclear war. And the fact that in the course of the interview G. Bush stated that the Soviet Union also proceeds on the basis of that possibility could not in any event—to say nothing of the unsubstantiated nature of that statement—do anything to change the fact that at the beginning of the interview he set forth and tried to justify his own view.

Since G. Bush was unable to call into question the correctness of R. Shearer's presentation of his remarks, his aides tried nonetheless to do everything possible to stop the story and ensure that it was forgotten as quickly as possible.

Indeed, it might not have been remembered, had it not been for the present line of G. Bush's administraiton on questions concerning nuclear weapons. Of course, G. Bush's views may have changed: Nearly 10 years have passed, and much has changed in the world since the time of that much-publicized interview. So why not say so, out loud? Now that he has become U.S. President and his views on the question of whether nuclear war is thinkable or unthinkable and on the possibility of victory in such a war are therefore of not merely theoretical, but practical significance for the future of the world, it is only fair to expect George Bush to make his position on this fundamental question absolutely clear.

Pace of Military Reorientation Defended
PM2607150189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 89 Second Edition p 5

[K. Sorokin article: "On the Balance of Words and Deeds"]

[Text] The processes taking place in the Soviet Union have become an "evergreen theme," to use the expression of one BBC correspondent, for Western newspapers and journals, television and radio, politicians, and members of the military. The majority of the opinions are positive, but highly restrained, sometimes even critical commentaries are no rarity. They are concerned, among other things, with Soviet foreign policy. Few object to the "new thinking" in essence, until it comes to the question of the role played by nuclear weapons in safeguarding security. Both the United States and Western Europe are heard to say quite often that "the Soviet Union does a lot of talking but takes little action."

The remark about the "talking" could be understood and even accepted, if we were indeed wasting time talking about problems and attempting to lull the vigilance of the other side. But the situation is not like that at all. The international community is now traveling an untrodden path leading to disarmament. There are many obstacles on this path and much that is simply unclear. How to express the problems that arise, how to approach their resolution, how to coordinate international efforts—all these questions are being discussed in the course of political dialogue. One cannot now manage without this "political theory."

Moreover, it should not be forgotten that by the mid-eighties the world had come to resemble a stage on which duelists were assembled. When nerves are stretched, any sudden movement—even an attempt by one of them to engage the safety catch of his "pistol"—could end tragically. Within this context, a detailed explanation of one's aims and position in conjunction with political effort is essential.

Now about the real action. It is quite obvious that political projects are always going to outstrip international practice. The main point in this respect is to ensure that the gap between words and deeds is not too great. From this standpoint, the criticism leveled at the Soviet Union does not seem just. The structure of "new thinking" is being fleshed out with perfectly visible, tangible substance. Take the military side, for example. American inspectors are closely monitoring the elimination of Soviet intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. Western observers regularly check that the Soviet Union

is complying with the Stockholm program of confidence-building measures. U.S. Congressmen have had the opportunity to see for themselves that two reactors producing weapons-grade plutonium have been shut down. W. Crowe, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, who visited the Soviet Union recently, took away "very tangible evidence" that the Soviet Armed Forces have begun to devote greater attention to conducting defensive—field and staff—exercises.

Nor should we forget the program of unilateral reductions in the Soviet Armed Forces, announced by M.S. Gorbachev in December 1988, or the planned cuts—again, on a unilateral basis—in the Soviet military budget. As yet there have been no similar steps taken by the West.

Could the reorientation toward a defensive doctrine take place in the Soviet Union at a faster pace? In ideal conditions, the answer would obviously be yes. But in real life this is prevented by at least two circumstances. The first is connected with the scale and complexity of the planned transformations. After all, implementing the principle of "reasonable sufficiency" requires far-reaching changes at several interdependent levels. For example, we have to create a non-offensive structure of armed forces, limit the strike weapons in these forces, saturate the forces with defensive systems, and review the grouping and deployment of the armed forces with a view to their performing defensive tasks. This means, among other things, that the number of military districts, armies, and divisions must be reduced. It is planned to remove 30-35 percent of all tanks, artillery, and river-crossing equipment from motorized infantry and tank divisions. At the same time, they are to be equipped with 1.5-2 times more antitank and anti-aircraft weapons. Naturally, all this will take considerable time and money.

Moreover, it is planned to reduce the production of military equipment by almost 20 percent, utilize a large number of superfluous combat systems, and pour tens of thousands of officers released from the army into civilian life. Both economic and social conversion are by their very nature programs of the greatest complexity. An additional difficulty is that we have embarked on these programs without having worked out the concepts down to the smallest detail and, it seems, without a totally clear idea of what we have yet to come up against. It is precisely for this reason that in his Strasbourg speech M.S. Gorbachev called for West and East to unite their efforts in developing the theory of conversion.

The second factor which is holding back the "military realization" of the "new thinking" is an external one. The new view of the international situation includes unilateral reductions, the withdrawal of troops, and their restructuring. But it does not presuppose a unilateral reduction in the level of security and certainly does not envisage complete unilateral disarmament. In the final analysis, the limits and pace of realizing the principles of "reasonable sufficiency," "defensive defense," and "new thinking" depend as a whole on the line taken by the other side. So far, favorable trends have been manifest mainly in the foreign policy of the NATO countries. This is good, of course. But it is still not enough. Because, in its military activities, NATO is still applying the same concepts and following the same course in military building as those which existed when the international situation was exacerbated.

NATO loves to repeat that the security of the members of the alliance is indivisible. But the security of alliances is also indivisible. We must work together for a world with a smaller quantity of weapons by exchanging experience and helping one another. Yes, every stage of disarmament needs to be assessed, but this assessment must be sober and not only an assessment of others but an assessment of oneself.

Gerasimov Holds News Conference 26 Jul

Denies KGB Ties With Bloch

LD2607132289 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, Gennadiy Gerasimov, has refuted allegations by the Western media that the State Security Committee, the KGB, cooperated with the U.S. diplomat, Felix Bloch. Reports concerning Felix Bloch are no more than speculations, Gerasimov said in Moscow. In the United States, Bloch has not been charged officially. He is now on leave and continues to draw his full pay. When asked about the possibility of ties between Bloch and the KGB or some other intelligence service in Eastern Europe, Gerasimov answered that this is speculation that hasn't been proved in any way.

Views Estonian Supreme Soviet Session

LD2607160589 Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—Some contradictions were revealed at a session of the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian Republic held on July 24 which discussed a bill on elections to local government bodies (soviets). The same contradictions were observed earlier during the discussion of a bill on citizenship, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov said at a briefing here today.

Part of the population saw in the bill the infringement upon the rights of non-Estonians living in that Baltic republic, because it introduces a residence requirement into the electoral system. According to the first version of the bill, only people who lived five years in the electoral district or 15 years in the republic had the right to vote or to be elected to local soviets. In the process of finishing the document, the residence requirement was lowered, but the Russian-speaking deputies of the Estonian Supreme Soviet (they accounted for about 25 per cent of those present at the session) opposed the residence requirement in principle. The session of the Estonian Supreme Soviet deemed it expedient to postpone the discussion for two weeks in order to avoid discord and find a way out acceptable to all.

This complicated situation brought about a work stoppage. A number of labour collectives, mostly Russian-speaking ones, are on strike today. Gerasimov pointed out that the actions were of a local character. Order is being maintained, no clashes were reported. The strikers oppose the bill which they regard as discriminatory. Neither do they agree with the law on the language. Members of these labour collectives oppose the idea of giving priority to the native nationality expressed by some leaders of the republic, Gerasimov said.

Outlines Efforts for Mideast Settlement

LD2607133989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1220 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jul (TASS)—With the aim of smoothing the process of a Mideast settlement and the preparation and convening of an international conference, the Soviet Union is making active contacts with all the sides connected with this, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration, stated at a briefing today.

Supporting these contacts on a regular basis, he said, is the assignment of Gennadiy Tarasov, assistant to the USSR foreign minister, as special representative for Middle East affairs. Earlier this year he visited Damascus, Cairo, and Amman. Last week Gennadiy Tarasov conducted consultations in Tunis with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and other Palestinian leaders.

On 25 July, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman continued, Gennadiy Tarasov received Arye Levin, head of the Israeli consular delegation in Moscow, at the latter's request. Consular delegations in Tel Aviv and Moscow are used as a channel of political communications, primarily on the subject matter of a Middle East settlement.

The other day during a stopover in Paris, as part of his maintenance of contacts, Gennadiy Tarasov met with Nimrod Novik, adviser to the Israeli vice prime minister.

As for reports of a possible trip to Israel by Gennadiy Tarasov, he has not the corresponding invitation. Depending on the development of events, if such a trip is useful for advancing the cause of a settlement, then it may take place at an appropriate moment, Gennadiy Gerasimov said.

Views Afghanistan, Naval Visit to U.S.

LD2607161189 Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT 26 Jul 89

["Briefing at Foreign Ministry Press Centre—Wrap-up"—TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—The USSR regards the international conference on Cambodia, due to open in Paris on July 30, as a landmark in the Cambodia settlement process, chief of the Foreign Ministry Information Directorate Gennadiy Gerasimov said at a briefing today. He said the Soviet delegation would make efforts to enable the conference achieve positive results. In his words, "it is possible that the international forum will be attended by the Soviet foreign minister".

On the military and political situation in Afghanistan, Gerasimov said the situation had not undergone substantial changes in the past days. On the whole, the

government troops hold the positions they have occupied while the extremists still prefer to shell human settlements and commit terrorist and sabotage acts, instead of launching attacks.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman noted the success of the official visit from 21 through 25 July of a group of Soviet naval vessels to the U.S. port of Norfolk. The visiting group was headed by first deputy commander of the northern fleet Vice-Admiral Igor Kasatonov. Gerasimov reminded the newsmen that a response visit by U.S. naval vessels to Sevastopol will be from 4 through 8 August under the flag of commander of the Sixth Fleet Vice-Admiral James Williams.

Boris Krasulin, first deputy chief of the Department for the Affairs of International Organisations of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, said at the briefing that Assistant Secretary of State for International Organisation Affairs John Bolton was to arrive in Moscow on July 26. On July 27 he is to have consultations with Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Vladimir Petrovskiy. The consultations will be pursuant to the meeting between Eduard Shevardnadze and James Baker and touch on issues of the so-called "fifth basket"—development of cooperation in the United Nations, as well as transitional problems—combatting terrorism and drug traffic. The consultations to be held near Moscow will be attended by experts.

Says Shevardnadze May Attend Paris Meet

LD2607135189 Moscow TASS in English 1223 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—The Soviet Union sees an international conference on Cambodia, opening in Paris on July 30, as a landmark in the Cambodian settlement process, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov told a briefing here today.

The USSR hopes for progress at the conference, encouraged by the positive results of previous inter-Khmer regional and global talks, he said.

Gerasimov stressed the importance of building upon previous achievements conference won't need to start everything from scratch. [sentence as received]

He said that the Soviet delegation will participate in the conference most actively and work to ensure its success.

"The Soviet foreign minister will possibly take part in the international forum as well," he said.

Talks With U.S. on Afghanistan Set for 31 Jul

LD2707142989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1405 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jul (TASS)—The Soviet-U.S. consultations on Afghanistan will be held in Stockholm on 31 July and 1 August. Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a briefing that only Afghan issues will be examined at the meeting. Other problems are not included on the agenda. The basic goal of the consultations is to find sensible political ways of resolving the Afghan problem.

Kuznetsov Cites Increase in Exit Applications

LD2707142389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1338 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jul (TASS)—Eighty-four percent of applications for exit from the USSR by Soviet citizens have now been granted. This is 84 percent of the 1,850 visas, on which—up to 19 January of this year—the Department of Visas and Registration of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs adopted negative decisions. General Rudolf Kuznetsov, chief of the Department of Visas and Registration of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, said this at a briefing held in the press center of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He said that since reaching the Vienna accords, 1,325 applications of Soviet citizens for temporary exit, and 231 for permanent residence abroad, have been granted.

Official Says U.S. Indian Ocean Stance 'Negative'

LD2607135789 Moscow TASS in English 1258 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—A Soviet diplomat described the position of the U.S. delegation at the latest session of the United Nations ad hoc committee on the Indian Ocean as "extremely negative", at a news briefing here today.

Boris Krasulin, Soviet representative on the committee and deputy head of the Foreign Ministry's office for international organisations, voiced regret over the session's failure to prepare a draft resolution for the U.N. General Assembly and blamed a sharp deterioration of relations between separate groups of states in the committee for this. Krasulin said the situation was due to a new position of the U.S. delegation and its close allies regarding ways of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

The American delegation, the diplomat continued, formally stated during the general discussion that it would stay away from any international conference on declaring the Indian Ocean a zone of peace and favoured curtailing the work of the committee and even cancelling it. Krasulin added that a group of Western delegations led by the U.S. even refused to accept the draft tabled by the non- aligned states, supported by socialist countries as the basis for discussion.

The draft aims to promote the fulfilment of the decisions of the General Assembly, namely to convene an international conference on declaring the Indian Ocean a zone of peace in Colombo next year.

It was finally decided to discuss the issue at the General Assembly, the Soviet diplomat reported.

Views UN Obligations

LD2607130189 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—The Soviet Union has fully honoured its financial obligations to the United Nations, a senior Soviet Foreign Ministry official Boris Krasulin said today.

He told a news briefing here that the USSR recently paid the second half of its contribution to the regular U.N. 1989 budget, over 43 million dollars. The first half was paid way back in March. The overall Soviet contribution totalled 86.4 million dollars.

Krasulin, first deputy chief of the ministry's Directorate for International Organisations, said the entire sum was in convertible currency, without the usual deductions and payments in rubles.

He expressed hope that other U.N. members, especially the main contributors to its budget, will also help boost the international organisation's finances.

NATO States Allegedly Distort Warplane Data

PM2507092189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 5

[S. Guk article: "Mirages involving 'Mirages,' or How Some NATO Countries Tried To Adjust the Figures on the Number of Their Warplanes"]

[Text] Statistics, as everyone knows, is a treacherous and not always reliable science. You will see that for yourself again when you study the recent story of how NATO calculated its warplanes. This was publicized by the West Berlin newspaper TAGESZEITUNG, among others.

The audit of the total number of air force military hardware was undertaken after President Bush presented his proposals at the end of last May on the reduction of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe. The White House head advocated in particular a 15-percent reduction in the number of warplanes.

None of the partners in the Atlantic bloc objected. It only remained to estimate what number of aircraft will be scrapped if the President's proposal is accepted by the participants in the Vienna talks.

They began adding up the totals. The West European countries sent their figures to Washington. The Pentagon carried out some complex arithmetical calculations and produced the figure of 4,914 units. Doubts surfaced, something was not right: According to the U.S. statistics the allies were supposed to have 5,840 aircraft. In other words, 900 more.

The missing objects were soon found. It turned out that the French, for example, had disguised some of their modern Mirage fighter-bombers as transports. And their colleagues in Bonn did not feel it necessary to include in the statistics combat machines temporarily under repair.

Here, it is true, the FRG Defense Ministry did put forward an original story about the discrepancies in the figures. It is the deeply held conviction of the West German generals that the whole matter boils down to what you consider a warplane: Some people, the generals suggested, apparently mistakenly added "training aircraft," thus producing this nonsensical figure.

While the FRG Defense Ministry was feeling pleased with its own quick-wittedness, opposition deputies in the Bundestag became involved in the case. Citing a THE WASHINGTON POST report, the deputies accused the NATO military of secretly managing to increase the number of combat aircraft. Furthermore, not content with what they have got they are still "going for more." The plan is simple: The fewer aircraft there are on paper (and correspondingly the more in real life), the more will remain after the reductions have been carried out. In the process it emerged that the number of tanks, artillery, and transport facilities had been similarly "adjusted" at NATO headquarters.

E. Erler and A. Mechtersheimer, members of the Bundestag defense commission, came to the clear conclusion: NATO representatives at the Vienna talks are engaged in a "scandalous deception of the public." The two parliamentarians demanded that the federal government investigate the military officials' sleight of hand. This threat did not worry the latter in the least, however: They continue to claim that the esteemed deputies are simply mistaken.

That, of course, is true. But in this particular story the only thing that remains is to name the "source of the disinformation" which, they say, misled the public: The information on the West European NATO countries' understatement of the number of their warplanes came from the CIA. A department long known for the fact it painstakingly records every aircraft, tank, or armored personnel carrier belonging not only to a potential enemy but (in this case) to its own allies, too. The CIA may be suspected of some things but you will agree that it is hard to suspect it of wanting to "overstate" the figures on NATO's armaments.

United States & Canada

Soviet Sailors' Visit to Norfolk Detailed

PM2607145389 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jul 89 First Edition p 3

[Captain First Rank S. Bystrov dispatch: "Welcome to America"]

[Text] Norfolk, 24 Jul—Norfolk's press, radio, and television are devoting a great deal of attention to the Soviet ships' visit to the United States. Americans are treating the news with interest and are eagerly striving to obtain contacts with Soviet seamen. Whether it be merely a handshake, an autograph, or, even better, a photograph as a keepsake. Everywhere our seamen go they are greeted with handwritten banners saying: "Welcome to America."

The U.S. side granted the detachment command group an opportunity to examine military facilities in the area of Hampton Roads and Langley Air Force Base and to land in Williamsburg on an excursion around the Bush Gardens park. Then Vice Admiral I. Kasatonov and Rear Admiral A. Selivanov visited the Oceana naval air station, where they were greeted by Rear Admiral F.L. Lewis, commander of the Atlantic Fleet tactical air force. A dinner was given by Vice Admiral J.L. Johnson, commander of the 2d Fleet, on board the aircraft carrier "John F. Kennedy."

A large group of Soviet seamen had an excursion aboard this aircraft carrier. An evening promenade was held in Norfolk's Town Point Municipal Park accompanied by fireworks and a concert performed by our ensemble and band.

U.S. Congress Expected To Question Arms Spending

PM2607153789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 89 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "About the Budget"]

[Text] Washington, 24 Jul—Today debates begin in both houses of the U.S. Congress on the military budget for Fiscal 1990 proposed by the Bush administration. They have been preceded by intensive administration efforts to influence the legislators to secure their approval for appropriations for the "Star Wars" program, the programs for the development and deployment of MX and Midgetman ICBM's and the building of the latest B-2 Stealth strategic bombers, and other military projects, for which a sum total of $305.5 billion has been requested. President G. Bush himself has actively joined in this campaign, having twice in recent days summoned representatives of a number of key congressional committees to the White House to try to prove to them the need to keep his request unchanged. At the same time, top Defense Department officials have also addressed congressmen to the same end.

The administration is concerned at the legislators' disagreement with the White House's priorities in the military sphere. Thus, the House Armed Services Committee has advocated a reduction of $1.1 billion in the White House's request for $4.9 billion for programs within the framework of the "Strategic Defense Initiative." The Senate Armed Services Committee has also voted to cut this sum.

However, the sharpest debates are expected over the $4.7 billion requested by the administration to build the B-2. Many legislators believe that this program is too costly, beyond the pockets of U.S. taxpayers, and should be cut significantly. Moreover, in their opinion, Stealth is still a "bum deal," because it has made just one test flight.

Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, unexpectedly gave the B-2 program support on Sunday. Largely repeating Cheney's ideas, he declared in an NBC television interview that "if the B-2 is rejected, we will have to reconsider our positions at the arms control talks."

Debate Surrounding B-2 Bomber Funding Pondered

PM2607115989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Matveyev "Political Observer's Opinion": "B-2 in the Air and on Land"]

[Text] The first test flight of the new U.S. B-2 strategic bomber, named "Stealth," which in translation may mean "undetectable," attracted attention in the United States and abroad not only from specialists able to assess the significance of such innovations in the military sphere. The "Stealth" was a graphic symbol of how increasingly sophisticated technological programs are gobbling up increasingly vast sums of money. This aircraft could indeed be said to be made of gold. It weighs 150 tonnes and (one!) costs more than $500 million.

Why spend so much? The aircraft, which is manufactured using special materials that can absorb radar signals, is designed to overcome current air defense systems. It is easy to guess whose radar defense systems.

Work on the aircraft began in strictest secrecy in 1977. In 1980 scrappy information about it was leaked to the U.S. press. But even then the public learned no details about it, and not only the public. The Congress was also kept in the dark. The U.S. Administration is able when necessary to bypass the legislative organ for its secret programs.

The first aircraft was ready by late 1988. The Northrop Corporation, which received the contract, showed it to journalists at Palmdale Base in California. By that time the debate in Congress about the advisability of spending such sums on this novelty was already in full spate.

Northrop received a preliminary order for 132 of these aircraft. They are to form the lion's share of all the corporation's current contracts with the Pentagon, which are evaluated at $150 billion—a record even by the standards of this generous U.S. department.

How much will the "Stealth" program ultimately cost? The question is of serious concern to the Congressional committees whose approval is needed to ensure that the government's budget appropriations become law. It turns out that this same question is stumping Richard Cheney—the U.S. defense secretary—himself. He made a statement in an interview which, I believe, staggered many of his compatriots. It transpires that the Pentagon chief, despite his questions, has simply not received answers to a question which he should of course know about. "No one at present," Cheney said, "has been able to give me precise data on the cost of this program. I am seeking such information."

What conclusion is R. Cheney drawing from this situation? He said that he intends to refrain at present from deciding how many B-2's the Pentagon will order.

The program has not been canceled. It is hanging in midair. It is not the first billion-dollar program to suffer this fate. The future of the "Stealth's" immediate predecessor—the B-1 bomber, whose technical characteristics, not to mention cost, are arousing doubts in light of the aircraft's three accidents—is uncertain.

It is not a question of details. The fundamental question arises in all its magnitude of the rightness and advisability—even from the purely military viewpoint—of an unlimited escalation of the arms race necessitating such staggering funds and resources. Even some loyal friends of the Pentagon in the Congress hesitate when they learn what the department is planning in the name of "national security."

It is proposed to spend $37.5 billion over the next few years on a new fighter for the Air Force, $35 billion on the Navy model, $60 billion for an air defense complex designed for battlefield use, and $20 billion on two nuclear-powered aircraft carriers. That is not counting the programs in which production is already under way and not counting the expenditures needed to maintain the armed forces within the United States and abroad.

A few years ago Congress rubber-stamped such programs virtually automatically, and the U.S. Administration spent $2.4 trillion on the arms race in the previous 8 years. The Pentagon's "honeymoon period" is gradually receding. The Congress is establishing its prerogatives as the body supervising military expenditures. For the last 3 years government appropriations have not been approved automatically. Admittedly, the reductions have hitherto been relatively modest—no more than 5 percent of the overall Pentagon budget. Nevertheless the trend is important. It did not arise out of nothing. It is backed up by real changes in the international political climate. It stems from a rational approach to the problem of military expenditures under conditions where there is a growing realization that security cannot be ensured solely by military means. The steps which have been taken hitherto have been extremely limited. They are meeting with fierce opposition from forces accustomed to seeing the state treasury as a bottomless pit.

In this climate voices of protest from individual influential people, including scientists and journalists, are acting as catalysts for the healthy trends which are gaining momentum. Historian Paul Kennedy's best-seller entitled "The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers" met with a similar response. [as published] In it the author traces the reasons for the dramatic changes in the weight of various states in the international arena in the last few centuries. In particular, he shows how such previously dominant world powers as Spain in the 16th century and Britain at the end of the last century began to decline from these positions mainly because they increasingly burdened themselves with vast military commitments. This had an adverse impact on their economic activity and competitiveness.

Along with Americans we saw on our television screens the black bird shoot into the sky to an altitude of 3km on 17 July. In his report, a CBS correspondent at the Pentagon pointed out that "the bomber's flight has not changed the opinions of many legislators, unable to recover from the shock of finding out that the program to build the 132 aircraft will cost more than $70 billion." That is double Britain's entire military budget.

A countersystem can always be found for every military system. That is the reckless logic of the arms race, which requires increasingly vast expenditures. Recognized authorities in the United States declare that, at a time when the technological value of the new aircraft is still by no means obvious, its devastating effect on the treasury is a fact. Policymakers in the world's richest country must ponder this fact increasingly seriously.

China

More on Trade, Science Commission Meeting

PM2607113289 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Commission Session"]

[Text] The fourth session of the Soviet-Chinese commission on economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation continued its work in Moscow on 22 July. The two sides' delegations embarked on the discussion of problems of widening and deepening collaboration in specific spheres—trade and economic, scientific and technical, heavy industry, power industry, aviation, agriculture, and education, as well as questions of border ties and direct ties and transport provision for foreign trade freight turnover.

As a result of a thorough exchange of opinions, an accord was reached on completing the formulation this year of a program of long-term economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and the PRC, which will provide a good basis for taking cooperation to a new, higher level.

Maslyukov, Tian Jiyun Sign Protocol

LD2607215889 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] The fourth sitting of the Soviet-Chinese Commission on Economic, Trade and Scientific and Technical Cooperation ended today in Moscow. In accordance with the results of the sitting a protocol was signed. It was signed by Maslyukov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and by Tian Jiyun, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo and vice premier of the PRC State Council. Our special correspondent Igor Charikov was at the final meeting of the delegations.

[Begin recording] [Charikov] Another important step has been taken in developing and strengthening Soviet-Chinese relations. Those taking part in the fourth sitting not only meet around the negotiating table, but continued discussing the issue of cooperation and the search for new forms for it at industrial enterprises, scientific production associations. Everywhere the delegation of Chinese specialists summarized the results. Certain accords have been reached which open up the road for further cooperation. Both sides are satisfied with the results of the fourth sitting of the commission. After the signing ceremony, I turned to Comrade Tian Jiyun with the request that he appraise the results of the work.

[Tian Jiyun in Chinese with superimposed Russian translation] My talks with Comrade Maslyukov were friendly and frank. They passed in the spirit of the summit meeting in Beijing this past spring when we decided to draw a line through the past and to move on to the future. On a whole series of issues, as has already been said, we reached accords and we will make every effort to realize them. From our point of view the sphere of cooperation which has the best prospects is the light textile industry and also agriculture. As far as science and technology are concerned, we see extensive prospects in the sphere of atomic power and astronautics. We attach great significance also to such a form as the creation of joint enterprises. I would like to take this opportunity, Comrade Tian Jiyun said in conclusion to give my best wishes to the whole Soviet people.

[Charikov] I then asked Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov to share his impressions on the work of the commission:

[Maslyukov] Perhaps, I would just add that our meetings and our work are a continuation of those accords which were reached in China during the meetings in May between the heads of governments. And of course, in this context the importance of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit cannot be overestimated. And from the point of view of the sense of our work, I would like to say that we have strived to show our Chinese friends as much as possible, but from the point of view of our work this last meeting of ours has added frankness for us, has added for us the wish to coordinate our work very closely. Long-term thinking has appeared in our work because we have in general come to a common opinion about which themes of cooperation we will develop up to the year 2000, that is cooperation will be on a long term basis. And I would like to thank our Chinese comrades once again for their constructiveness, for their very bold and energetic approach to the issue of cooperation. [end recording]

[Moscow TASS in English at 1807 GMT on 26 July carries a short report that the fourth session of the joint commission is due to take place in Beijing in the spring of 1990.]

Maslyukov Views PRC Relations

LD2607230789 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Jul 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] The 4th session of the Soviet-Chinese commission on economic, trade, and scientific and technical cooperation concluded its work in Moscow today.

[M. Solntsev] A protocol was signed on the results of the commission's work. It was signed on the Chinese side by Tian Jiyun, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo and vice premier of the PRC State Council, and on the Soviet side by Comrade Maslyukov. [video shows Tian and Maslyukov signing documents, overlooked by group of officials]

After the signing of the protocol, a news conference was held for Soviet and foreign journalists. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Solntsev, to Maslyukov] What difficulties are there along the road of the development of Soviet-Chinese relations in the fields of science and technology and the economy?

[Maslyukov] I would say that there is a peculiar kind of overheating going on in the field of frontier trade, in the field of direct cooperation by our republics, oblasts, and krays. In other words, development is proceeding more quickly than we supposed. This gladdens us. It yields fruit for the krays, oblasts, and republics.

As for cooperation in some other areas, I believe that there is still something to work on. But I would like to note very good cooperation in the fields of power engineering and transport. Those are the two points which are most important of all at present for the PRC. As a

whole, I am satisfied with the state of affairs. [video shows Tian, Maslyukov, and a small group of officials facing journalists and cameramen] [end recording]

Technical Cooperation Detailed

OW2707004689 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 13 Jul 89

[Text] China Day and the China Scientific and Technological Exhibition will begin on 14 July. The regular session of the Sino-Soviet Commission on Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation will be held on 20 July. (Chiliyanova), a responsible person in charge of trade with China of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, spoke on Sino-Soviet economic cooperation and its future prospects as follows:

The new conditions created after the Sino-Soviet summit meeting in Beijing have added impetus to promoting economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries. Progress has been made in this connection. The agreement signed on 10 July 1985 for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, aimed at building and improving industrial projects in China is being triumphantly implemented. This agreement included the development of 11 projects in the fields of power industry, metallurgy, and paper industry. In addition, both sides have agreed to make investments of various forms in 25 projects both economically and technically.

The Soviet Union had also signed a large contract with China to provide the latter with technical assistance in building thermal power plants. It will help install two 500,000 kw power generating sets in the form of interest-bearing loans to China, while China will pay back the loans by repairing Soviet ships and providing the Soviet Union with consumer goods.

The two governments have also signed an agreement for a loan to China to help the latter build a railway from the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region to the USSR's Central Asia through the Dzungarian Gate. The power industry is the most important realm of cooperation between the two countries.

In addition to all the contracts which have been signed, the two countries are working on a plan regarding the design and construction of 300,000 kw, 500,000 kw, and 800,000 kw power stations. The Soviet Union will supply China with equipment and transformers for 10 210,000 kw power generating sets and 500 kilometers of transmission line. The potential for cooperation in this field is far from being fully tapped. Right now, discussions are under way to exchange electric power supply from the Soviet Union for Chinese goods in the border area. Power companies of both countries have made direct connections in power generation. Both sides have also begun their talks to promote cooperation on nuclear power generation. Both the Soviet Union and China are rich in coal reserves. Both of them have rich experience in coal mining. Technically, the Soviet Union has helped China build coal mines and coalfields and coal preparation plants. We can also point out the achievements by the Soviet Union and China in cooperating to develop the aviation industry. We have reached an agreement to join our efforts in designing modern and new-type aircraft with up-to-date technical knowledge in aeronautics engineering and in manufacturing new helicopters with engines made in China.

The Soviet Union and China have also closely cooperated in developing the ferrous and nonferrous metal industries. The Soviet Union has helped its Chinese comrades to rebuild their metallurgical industry and in retooling; transferred technologies on the basis of mutual benefits; and assisted China to improve design work. The metallurgical plants of both countries have maintained direct ties and exchanged experiences in the field of science and technology. They have joined efforts in developing pollution-free industries and maintaining the ecological balance. It is hoped that the fourth session of the Soviet-China Commission on Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation will provide a new impetus in promoting economic relations between the two countries and push those relations to a still higher level.

PRC Statement on U.S. Trade Sanctions Cited

PM2607121589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Rejecting Interference"]

[Text] Beijing, 23 Jul—"China expresses extreme indignation in connection with the fact that the U.S. Congress, ignoring the state sovereignty and aspirations of the people of the PRC, is grossly interfering in the country's internal affairs and undertaking actions which seriously offend the Chinese people's national feelings." This is contained in a statement published today by the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference all-China committee foreign affairs commission.

"The U.S. Congress House of Representatives and Senate," the statement notes, "having adopted an amendment to the sanctions against China, have distorted the real facts and attacked the PRC Government over the measures it has taken to end the disorders and pacify the counterrevolutionary rebellion in the country."

The recent events in the PRC, the document states, were not simply a student movement or some kind of "democratic movement." The disorders, which developed into a counterrevolutionary rebellion, attest to the organized and purposeful activity against the PRC leadership to undermine the socialist system.

The Chinese Government has always advocated that international relations be built on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence. The Chinese people have their own

system and their own concepts of values and we do not intend to impose them by force on other states, the statement emphasizes. These actions on the part of the U.S. Congress will cause serious damage to Sino-U.S. relations.

Council of Ministers Sends Condolences to Li Peng

LD2607124389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1159 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 26 Jul (TASS)—The USSR Council of Ministers sent Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council, a telegram expressing profound condolences to the government and people of the People's Republic of China over the natural disaster, powerful flooding in Sichuan Province, which involved human casualties and serious damage.

PRC Friendship Society Delegation Visits

OW2607135089 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 18 Jul 89

[From the "Current Events and Commentaries" program]

[Text] On 18 July, the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society held a meeting in Moscow with a delegation from the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, headed by a council member of the association, and from the China-USSR Friendship Association. The delegation is visiting under the plan of cooperation between the friendship societies of the two countries. This station's reporter has filed the following report:

This is the second delegation sent by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and the China-USSR Friendship Association to visit the Soviet Union. Space experts among the activists of the two associations visited this country not long ago. This visiting delegation is made up of members of the two associations at the central, provincial, and city levels.

Academician Tikhvinskiy, chairman of the Central Council of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, extended a warm welcome to the distinguished guests from China.

[Tikhvinskiy is briefly heard, speaking in Russian, fading out after a few seconds] Tikhvinskiy said: Your delegation is very representative because activists from all localities in China are included. We hope that your visit to our country will help further develop contacts between the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society and the China-USSR Friendship Association.

Tikhvinskiy added: We are glad to have your delegation visit us on the eve of the 40th founding anniversary of the PRC. We plan to hold extensive activities to celebrate this festival of fraternal China. A grand celebration meeting will be held at the Trade Union (?Assistance) Hall in Moscow where the public frequently holds the most grandiose rallies. A science conference is also planned in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, to celebrate this glorious festival.

Comrade Tikhvinskiy then talked about the activities of the central and local councils of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, and wished members of the delegation happy tours in the Soviet Union.

Then (Mao Li), head of the Chinese delegation, delivered a reply speech.

[Begin (Mao Li) recording] We are all very happy to be able to make this friendly visit to the Soviet Union. First we should thank the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society for inviting us and giving us this good opportunity. Our delegation is visiting the Soviet Union after Comrade Gorbachev paid a very important visit to Beijing, especially his historic talks with Comrade Deng Xiaoping, which brought about the normalization of relations between our two countries and parties. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that we have come to visit the Soviet Union after our country has scored a great victory in quelling a counterrevolutionary rebellion.

I completely agree with what Comrade Tikhvinskiy said just now, that Comrade Gorbachev's meeting with Comrade Deng Xiaoping provided a very good opportunity for carrying out the work of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society and the China-USSR Friendship Association. [end recording]

Founding of Chinese Communist Party Noted

OW2607113889 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Text] Dear listeners: Let us discuss an important date in Chinese history—1 July 1921, the day when the Communist Party of China was founded and convened its first national congress.

None of us can disagree that the birth of the CPC on 1 July 1921, 68 years ago, was an important event in the long history of China and its people. The event gradually showed its significance when the CPC steadily increased its influence among the masses and began to play a vanguard role in Chinese people's anti-imperialist, anticolonial revolutionary movement.

Dear listeners, let us recall how the CPC took its first step in political struggle. Your country was divided and controlled by warlords who fawned on foreign powers. In the early 1920's, the Kuomintang, founded and led by great Chinese democratic revolutionary Mr Sun Yat-sen, was the only patriotic force of a fairly large size then. Mr Sun Yat-sen was never a communist and he did not believe in Marxist theories. However, as a thinker, statesman, and revolutionary, he showed his foresight by highly appraising

the strength of socialist ideology, the significance of the victory of the October Revolution in Russia to the world, and the CPC's ascending the political stage in semi-colonial, semi-feudal China. It was for this reason that Mr Sun Yat-sen deemed it his important work to ally with Soviet Russia and the Communist Party.

The CPC and its members spoke highly of Mr Sun Yat-sen's revolutionary activities. This fact was best shown by the decision made by the third CPC national congress in June 1923. According to the decision, the CPC permitted its members to join the Kuomintang led by Mr Sun Yat-sen. However, the political situation in China suddenly changed after Mr Sun Yat-sen passed away and Chiang Kai-shek staged a counterrevolutionary coup soon afterward. The CPC and the Kuomintang became political enemies to each other. Since then, genuine revolutionary activities in China have always been carried out under the CPC leadership.

Dear listeners, on the occasion of the CPC's 68th anniversary, we can recall a great deal of things with respect to its role in spreading socialist ideology in China, its contributions to organizing the war of resistance against Japan and the liberation war, and its leadership over Chinese revolutionary forces in winning victories during the 1946-49 civil war. Because of these contributions, plus the CPC's role in laying the socialist foundation and in leading the social and economic reforms in the last 10 years, we have every reason to believe that the CPC's birthday is one of the most important days in Chinese history.

As everyone knows, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the CPC are solving many similar problems in socialist construction at present. There are something for the parties and peoples of our two countries to learn from each other. For this reason, both Chinese people and Soviet people are greatly satisfied with the complete normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations and the restoration of the CPSU-CPC relations achieved during Comrade Gorbachev's official visit to China.

Northeast Asia

Gorbachev Meets With Mongolia's Batmonh

LD2607112689 Moscow TASS in English 1113 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—A meeting between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural of Mongolia, took place in the Soviet Communist Party (CPSU) Central Committee here today.

The Mongolian leader has been staying in the Soviet Capital since July 25 on a working visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

Maslyukov Receives Jasray

LD2707015789 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 26 Jul 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today Comrade Maslyukov received Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR] Jasray. Questions of economic cooperation between the two countries, in particular on the course of work to coordinate the state plans of the USSR and the MPR in 1991-1995 and for the period up to the year 2000. Taking part in the conversation was the MPR Ambassador to the USSR Gurbadam.

Soviet Teachers Denied Visas To Visit Hokkaido

OW2607040489 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Potapov report: "Area Where Goodwill Exchanges Are Prohibited"]

[Text] Following is a report filed by Radio Moscow Tokyo correspondent Potapov:

Friendly exchanges between the residents of the Soviet Far East and the people of Hokkaido have served as a good foundation for strengthening mutual understanding and promoting systemized cooperation. Based on this concept, members of the Hokkyoso, the Hokkaido Teachers Union [HTU], have invited their Sakhalin counterparts, a tour group of teachers, to visit Hokkaido.

Originally, the group was scheduled to arrive from Kholmsk at Wakkanai on 6 July by the ferry service connecting these two cities. However, no welcoming scenes filled with joy were seen at Wakkanai Port, because the Japanese Foreign Ministry refused to issue entry visas for these Soviet residents. Visas were not issued because foreigners were not allowed to move freely in Wakkanai City. In other words, or to put it in terms easier to understand, Wakkanai is off limits to the Soviet people.

A few days later, the Japanese Foreign Ministry's local office informed the staff members of the Soviet Consulate General in Sapporo that this ferry service should not be used for the same reason. Staff members of the Soviet Consulate General in Sapporo had a plan to attend the ceremony celebrating the establishment of a Soviet-Japanese joint venture.

As the HOKKAIDO SHIMBUN reports, the HTU is now facing a complicated problem. HTU members are now thinking of switching the Soviet teachers' visit to Japan by taking the air flight linking Khabarovsk and Niigata. However, since this is the peak season for tourism, it is not so easy to settle the problem concerning air ticket reservation, not to mention the fact that, for the Soviet teachers' group, it was uncertain when their

visit to Japan could be realized. Furthermore, there is now no guarantee for the Soviet delegation, which is scheduled to visit Japan, whether all its members can visit Japan. And the following fact should also be mentioned. That is, the measure that the HTU is forced to take will certainly cause considerable damage to its budget.

The ferry service linking Kholmsk and Wakkanai was inaugurated in late May. Originally, eight round trips were scheduled until September. The Japanese teachers union thought that, like Japanese tourists, Soviet tourists would be allowed to use this ferry service. However, due to the restrictions imposed by the Japanese Foreign Ministry's local office, this route seems to have become a one-way service. A Hokkaido shipping company connected with this service has suffered heavy loss.

HOKKAIDO SHIMBUN points out that, due to the Japanese Foreign Ministry's position, the Wakkanai citizens who want to promote friendly relations with the Soviet Union have now come to face a serious problem. According to this paper, Executive Officer Watanabe of the Wakkanai Chamber of Commerce and Industry also feels that it will be difficult to agree to the Japanese Foreign Ministry's measures and says that it is utterly impossible to understand why the Foreign Ministry has refused the Soviet people's visit to Japan. According to local papers, the Japanese Foreign Ministry's measures have aroused dissatisfaction in Japanese society as well as in political circles. A group of Japan Socialist Party [JSP] members, led by Mr Toshiharu Okada, vice chairman of the JSP Central Executive Committee, called on the Foreign Ministry on 17 July and made a written request that the restrictions on Soviet citizens' entry at or exit from Wakkanai be removed.

We have just broadcast a report entitled "An Area Where Goodwill Exchanges Are Prohibited" on the Japanese Foreign Ministry's measures restricting Soviet citizens' entry at, and exit from, Wakkanai City.

Kotlyar Agrees on Whaling Cooperation With Japan
OW2707085289 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Japanese Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Horinouchi met with Soviet Fishing Industry Minister Kotlyar in Tokyo yesterday and they agreed on expanding cooperation in fisheries. At the meeting, it was pointed out that development of exchanges would promote the establishment of joint ventures in fisheries. The two sides also reached an accord on cooperation at various international organizations, including the International Whaling Commission.

Suspension of Inter-Korean Dialogue Noted
PM2607120989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 89 Second Edition p 7

[Own correspondent Sergey Tikhomirov dispatch under the rubric "Viewpoint": "Wall of Alienation"]

[Excerpt] Pyongyang—[passage omitted] ...Since the middle of last year the inter-Korean dialogue has been noticeably stepped up. At the beginning of the current year it even seemed to be following an upward trend, as it were, which inspired optimism not only among the talks participants but also among interested parties. Unfortunately, the hopes that positive results would ensue from the dialogue were not vindicated. During the spring the talks were already beginning to lose momentum, and literally a matter of days ago the news came from Seoul that South Korea had decided to postpone the resumption of all political negotiations with the DPRK indefinitely. In an effort to justify this step, Seoul officialdom accused Pyongyang of undermining the government monopoly on conducting bilateral talks by establishing contacts with individual figures in South Korea. However, in my opinion the reason given for this decision, even if it is not a fabrication, indicates that, at least for the time being, the South is not prepared to continue a serious discussion with its northern partner. In other words, the inter-Korean dialogue has essentially again reached an impasse, and that means that the vacuum which has formed at the negotiating table may again, as has happened in the past, be filled with mutual recriminations and propaganda slogans which are not binding in any way.

As for the Soviet Union's position on this account, it is well known. We have supported and continue to support the just struggle of the Korean people for the peaceful unification of the North and South of the country, and, specifically, the DPRK's demand that U.S. troops be withdrawn and nuclear weapons be removed from the south of the Korean Peninsula. The Krasnoyarsk initiatives, for instance, had they been implemented, would not only have contributed to the relaxation of tension on the peninsula, but would have also substantially advanced the cause of security in Asia as a whole.

Soviet people and all the world's progressive forces express their solidarity with the Korean people's struggle. The tragedy, which has dragged on for several decades now, must be ended. Ultimately, the wall of hostility which divides the Korean nation will be pulled down. Pulled down once and for all.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

TASS Supports Aims of Cambodia Conference
LD2607163389 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—By TASS diplomatic correspondent:

The totally new political situation concerning Cambodia offers prerequisite conditions for a comprehensive settlement of the problem.

The new environment has been brought about primarily by the decision of the three countries of Indochina to complete the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia by September 30 and by the Cambodian adoption of permanent neutrality, a step opening possibilities for its free and independent development.

The Soviet Union attaches much significance to an international conference on Cambodia, due in Paris in late July, which should bring closer peace and calm there. Its success will seriously help bolster positive trends in South-East Asia towards peace, stability and mutually advantageous cooperation among the nations of the region.

The conference, it was pointed out during a recent meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Cambodian head of government and Foreign Minister Hun Sen, is to work out reliable international guarantees for averting a civil war and preventing the restoration of a genocidal regime in Cambodia after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops, for cutting off foreign aid to all warring Khmer sides, and ensuring Cambodia's status as an independent, neutral and nonaligned state.

The creation of an effective international mechanism for monitoring and verifying the foreign troop pullout and the realisation of Cambodia settlement accords will be among the key tasks of the Paris forum.

The Khmer sides should resolve the domestic problems of their country independently, without outside interference. No imposition of any "models" and internal arrangements by anybody will produce any positive results, while only complicating national reconciliation in Cambodia.

Heng Samrin Arrives in USSR for 'Rest'

LD2707082789 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0800 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 27 July (TASS)—At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Cambodian People's Revolutionary Party and president of the Cambodian Council of State, arrived in the USSR today for a rest.

SRV's Nguyen Van Linh Views Economic Recovery

18070334 Moscow TRUD in Russian 18 Jul 89 p 3

[Interview with Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, by A. Kalashnikov: "On the Path of Renewal"—date and place not given]

[Text] [Kalashnikov] Comrade general secretary, we should like to know your assessment of the present situation in the country. The situation in Vietnam is changing rapidly. We recall just the beginning of last year: the critical food shortage in a number of northern provinces, the immense rates of inflation, and the unrestrained growth of prices. Now on the market there is always plenty of rice, other kinds of food, and other products, the exchange rate between the dong and the dollar has risen for the first time in many years, and prices have stopped increasing. Does this indicate the return of health to the Vietnamese economy?

[Nguyen Van Linh] During the more than 2 years during the implementation of the renewal policy formulated in the decisions of the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam we have achieved the first important results, especially in the area of the economy. As you correctly noted, at the present time the socioeconomic situation in the country has improved to a certain degree. The rates of inflation and price growth have subsided, the production of food products has increased, and there are more goods for the population on the market than there were before. The first steps have been taken for strengthening the national monetary unit—the dong. We are decisively changing the economy over to economic accountability. The progress that has been achieved is a direct result of the implementation of three economic programs: in the areas of food production (this is the most important), consumer goods, and goods for export. This is also the result of the renewal of the economic management system in the state sector, in the cooperative movement and agricultural production, and also other sectors of economic production.

But still I should like to add that the progress that has been achieved is not stable. These are only the first steps.

[Kalashnikov] The newspapers are reporting the impoverished condition of the state sector of the economy and the acute aggravation of the unemployment program. Do you consider this an inevitable consequence of the reform?

[Nguyen Van Linh] Indeed, beginning with the second quarter of this year, new difficulties and contradictions have appeared in our economy. Production at many state enterprises, in cooperatives, and in home shops are in a condition of stagnation and the number of people without work or with part-time work has increased. A large quantity of unsold products has accumulated. I do not think that this difficult situation is the direct result of the economic reform. The cause lies in the incorrect steps and the shortsightedness of the new methods of management. In other words, in the fact that we have gotten ahead of ourselves. We are confident that we are on the right path of rejection of the administrative-bureaucratic system of supply, but at the same time we have come up against a situation where, for example, the prices of raw and processed materials—the basis of production—have begun to increase very rapidly. Interest on money in the bank has increased significantly. This at least produces an advantage in drawing in part of the free money of the population but, on the other hand, it reduces the buying power of the society as a whole and causes an extreme shortage of funds in the state sector of

the economy. State organs are doing a poor job of monitoring and accounting for goods imported and shipped into the country and no customs system has been created for protecting domestic producers. Therefore many enterprises and shops that produce consumer goods have had to be closed altogether or to shut down part of their production. And people are left without work.

What lesson can be drawn from this situation? The changeover from the administrative-bureaucratic supply system to socialist economic accountability should consist of a number of well-thought-out and gradual but confident steps. The Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Politburo has already discussed this issue and given instructions to the Council of Ministers to take immediate measures to overcome those phenomena that were discussed above.

[Kalashnikov] Could more active work on the part of the trade unions have prevented such a situation? Previously you were a representative of the Federation of Trade Unions of Vietnam and our readers are especially interested in learning your views on the tasks of trade unions.

[Nguyen Van Linh] Along with other state and social organizations at various levels the trade unions play a very important role in stabilizing the situation in the country. The trade union committees must interact closely with the administrations of enterprises and mobilize workers and employees to carry out the following tasks:

—to considerably reduce expenditures on raw and processed materials in the production process and achieve all-around savings;

—to take advantage of the achievements of scientific and technical progress to improve technology, reduce production costs, increase labor productivity, and improve the quality of the products that are produced;

—to regulate and relieve the management apparatus, reduce the number of workers not directly engaged in production, increase the workers' qualifications, and create new jobs;

—to wage a resolute struggle against all kinds of negative phenomena, especially theft, and bring order into the distribution system;

—to return to the workers and employees the sense of being the master of production and enlist them more actively in administration.

At the 6th Congress of Trade Unions of Vietnam held in October of last year I discussed in detail this broad sphere of activity for trade unions in the modern revolutionary stage of the development of our society.

[Kalashnikov] It seems that the opinions of the Vietnamese concerning the consequences of the new economic policy were divided. Many think, for example, that the process of social and property stratification is natural and the call to "get rich" can be seen even on the pages of newspapers. It is recognized that a communist can be an entrepreneur and use hired labor. Others note with alarm the growth of "market elements," petit bourgeois attitudes, and the establishment in the society of ideals that are far from socialism...

[Nguyen Van Linh] Vietnam is still an agricultural country which is proceeding toward socialism, bypassing capitalism. Therefore we consider it necessary to be true to the ideas of the new economic policy developed by V.I. Lenin, the NEP. The Communist Party of Vietnam is in favor of expanding the possibilities of various economic structures to develop the productive forces of the society and utilizing private capital which under socialism should be developed in the form of state capitalism. This policy corresponds to the real economic situation in the country at the present time and helps to overcome arbitrary subjective manifestations and voluntarism, through which previously our people tried to build "pure" socialism as quickly as possible without private property even in the transitional period. This policy closely combines personal, private interests with the interests of the entire society. The person who is working well and producing more products that are needed by the society should also receive more. We encourage anyone who wants to honestly achieve well-being if he relies on his own forces and capabilities and at the same time observes the laws of the state. At the same time, taking advantage of various forms, it is necessary to render assistance to people who are experiencing difficulties and to the poor and to provide the necessary standard of living for the people. Naturally, in spite of the control and state regulation, there are people who will get rich illegally. But we are gradually overcoming such phenomena by using administrative, legal, organizational, educational, and ideological methods.

As concerns party members, our regulations stipulate: A party member must work and must not exploit the labor of other people. He must not be a capitalist who keeps the added value for himself. The policy of our party and state is directed toward the development of a multistructural economy in which the predominant role is played by the state sector. The correctness of this course has already been proved by life and it has produced significant results over the past 2 years. In spite of the multistructural nature of our production activity, it should be developed according to state plans and correspond to the general laws of socialism. Such was the decision of the 6th Plenum of our party's Central Committee. Naturally, not everything went smoothly all at once because leadership of the economy is both a science and a complicated art. We cannot fully avoid random developments in production and management, but we must overcome these shortcomings step by step.

[Kalashnikov] The entire world values highly your country's good will in solving the "Cambodia problem." This problem was considered to be the main obstacle on the path to drawing Vietnam into international economic cooperation. What will be Vietnam's foreign economic policy in the "post-Cambodia period"? In your opinion, will the position of the Soviet Union change when next to it on the Vietnamese market there will be strong competitors—Japan, for example, the Asian "dragons"? It seemed to me that it is precisely in these countries that many Vietnamese are placing their hopes for the most rapid progress of their economy.

[Nguyen Van Linh] From 1979 up to the present, under the pretext that Vietnam has been rendering assistance to the Cambodian revolution, certain Western countries have been practicing discrimination against Vietnam and trying to isolate us. But today there is an active process of detente and dialogue in progress in the world and the idea of peaceful coexistence is being established. Vietnam will exhibit good will in the question of withdrawing all of its troops from Cambodia by the end of September 1989 and the Western countries will have no more reason to continue this policy. On 29 December 1987 the National Assembly of Vietnam adopted a law that stimulates foreign capital investments in Vietnam. Since that time thousands of private foreign businessmen have visited us to study the possibilities of cooperation, ties have begun to expand, and more than 60 agreements and contracts have been signed. Incidentally this process began before we announced the withdrawal of the troops from Cambodia.

But Vietnam is consistently singling out as a priority area the development of cooperation with the Soviet Union, Laos, Cambodia, and other socialist countries. The course toward expansion of foreign economic ties is not changing, and this is our major direction. At the same time, in the development of cooperation with capitalist countries on a bilateral, mutually advantageous basis we must be vigilant and wage a battle against the plans for the so-called "peaceful erosion" which are ultimately directed toward removing Vietnam from the orbit of socialism.

[Kalashnikov] At the last high-level Soviet-Vietnamese meetings it was constantly emphasized that it is necessary to move toward truly mutually advantageous, balanced trade. When, in your opinion, will this happen? One other question in this connection. It is also noted all the time that Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation meets the interests of the people of both countries. "I am not arguing," a TRUD reader wrote to me in this connection, "but to begin with I wish to know what are the volumes of bilateral ties, the amounts of Soviet assistance to Vietnam, the Vietnamese debt to our country—these figures are still 'concealed' no matter whom we ask for them—either the Soviet or the Vietnamese side."

[Nguyen Van Linh] During the years of war against the American aggressors, as in the subsequent period, the USSR and other socialist countries offered Vietnam very effective assistance. The times are different now and at a meeting on 10 May 1987 in Moscow with Comrade M.S. Gorbachev we arrived at the unanimous opinion that mutually advantageous cooperation is necessary. But since Vietnam is still a poorly developed and backward country, the USSR made a decision to create favorable conditions for the development of Vietnam. Comrade Gorbachev said at that time that both the Soviet Union and Vietnam should be strong.

In order to change over to mutually advantageous cooperation, Vietnam and the USSR have decided to develop direct ties between enterprises, branches, and regions of the two countries. In addition to a certain amount of progress and positive changes that have been achieved in the area of restructuring for renewal, certain difficulties have also arisen in the cooperation between our two countries. During the meeting on 3 May 1989 Comrade Gorbachev and I agreed that the chairmen of the councils of ministers of the two countries, N.I. Ryzhkov and Do Muoi, would meet and make concrete decisions. I am convinced that this meeting will produce good results and will serve as an impetus for the development of economic interaction. Allow me once again to say how highly we value the large amount of effective multilateral assistance from the Soviet Union to Vietnam and express our deep gratitude for this.

[Kalashnikov] And the last question. The present is called a time of flourishing of Vietnamese journalism and a good deal is being associated with your name and articles in the newspaper NHAN DAN signed by N.V.L. which have set the tone in the struggle of the mass media for renewal and democratization. Do you consider it possible to reflect on the pages of the newspapers all the pluralism of opinions that inevitably arise in a complex transitional period?

[Nguyen Van Linh] The press is an open, democratic forum for discussing the most crucial issues of renewal which interest each person. It is important for the discussions to lead to positive results and for there to be a unity of word and deed both among the leadership and among the people. A democracy should exist within the framework of centralism and should provide for a leading role for the Marxist-Leninist party. On the pages of the press we must resolutely avoid anarchic statements that are alien to socialism. We shall not accept pluralism as a multitude of various political currents, including bourgeois ones, and we are against having more than one party and the existence of reactionary anti-Soviet parties. We reject appeals that call for the free existence of various political schools which has arisen in certain countries. This diversity in activity leads to our country's departure from the socialist path and a rejection of Marxism-Leninism. These processes cannot but lead to unpredictable negative consequences. We in Vietnam are checking to make sure that such phenomena do not arise here. We must increase our vigilance in the face of the evil intentions of certain imperialist countries which will use any means to try to destabilize the internal life of socialist states.

In conclusion let me take advantage of this occasion to convey my warm greetings and best wishes to the readers of TRUD.

Near East & South Asia

Comparison of Shevardnadze-Iranian Envoy Meeting

PM2507155389

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 25 July 1989 publishes in its Second Edition on page 4 a TASS report on Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's 24 July meeting with the Iranian ambassador to the USSR. Comparison of the PRAVDA item, entitled "Ambassador Received," with the translation of the Moscow TASS International Russian version, published in the 25 July Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on pages 17-18, reveals the following variations:

page 17, second column, seventh paragraph begins: [Text] On 24 July E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, received Heyrani-Nobari, Iranian... (rewording and adding passage)

same paragraph, last sentence reads: ...constructive discussion of diverse questions of bilateral... (adding "diverse")

page 18, first column, first paragraph, last sentence reads: ...on the situation in that country in an active, positive key with the aim of an intense search for ways of ending the bloodshed and establishing peace and... (adding passages).

Iran's Presidential Elections, Policy Discussed

NC2707091189 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1530 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Iranians will elect a president and vote on a referendum on changes in the Constitution to legalize a presidential system for the country on 28 July.

Iranians are being asked to choose between two candidates: current Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and famous political personality Dr 'Abbas Sheybani. However, public opinion polls predict a Rafsanjani victory. The TEHRAN TIMES has even published the names of those who will form his cabinet.

Analysts in Iran consider the 28 July elections a turning point in the postrevolution era. The issue is one of ending the long political, economic, and social crises and international isolation from which the society has suffered.

The Iranian mass media and political and social personalities view the duties of the future president from this angle. KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL believes that the new president can enjoy the nation's support only when he pays attention to narrowing the gap between poverty and affluence in Iran. Official figures are even cited on the width of this gap. These figures show that 40 percent, or 20 million, Iranians [words indistinct] of the national wealth. The upper echelon, about (?half) a million people have 21 percent of the social wealth in their hands. The newspaper believes that only a president who is faithful to the ideas of the revolution can help advance equal economic opportunities for the various social groups.

Of course the representatives of the various classes and sectors have accepted the ideas of the antimonarchical revolution according to their own tastes. However, the truth is that despite the (?inclination) of the Shi'ite government in Iran, the domination of political life by the large owners has been established. Their selfish interests prevent social and economic progress. They prevent the democratization of the country for the sake of their own interests and are prepared to push the country once again into adventurism in foreign policy and toward a policy of exporting the Islamic revolution.

Meanwhile, Iranians regard with concern the slogans by specific bourgeois circles that want to return the country to the bosom of the West. The people have not forgotten the tragic events of the past years and of the time when the country was a fief of the U.S. monopolies and military. This is why the people are sensitive to any contact Iranian leaders may have with leaders of Western countries and call for the maximum degree of openness on these issues.

The Iranians expect the new president to take actual steps toward the country's economic and social reconstruction by preserving and safeguarding the country's independence and sovereignty. In the past decade, the people have become tired of [word indistinct] extremism. These methods of intensifying the zeal of the masses are showing that they are unsuccessful and wrong because the Iranians increasingly regard them as a means to achieve [word indistinct].

Actually, foreign policy under extremist Islamic slogans only led to the protraction of the bloody Iran-Iraq war. It is this policy that has caused delay in the bilateral peace talks. Religious fanaticism and extremism have led to a deterioration of relations between Iran and Afghanistan and between Iran and the Persian Gulf countries. One of the major duties of the new president will be to lead the country to peace and cooperation with neighbors.

The recent visit by 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to the Soviet Union was a good example for the Iranians of emerging from international isolation. As a result of this visit, documents were signed under which Iran's relations with a great country on the basis of equal rights, mutual interests, and stability are determined.

The Soviet public hopes that the outcome of the 28 July elections will pave the way for the consolidation and progress of relations between neighboring countries.

Iranian Ambassador in Foreign Ministry Talks
PM2707085989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ambassador Received"]

[Text] A.A. Bessmertnykh, USSR first deputy foreign minister, received Iranian Ambassador N. Heirani-Nobari at the latter's request. During the conversation they discussed certain questions of bilateral relations in the context of the results of the recent official visit to the USSR by 'A.A. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, chairman of the Iranian Islamic Consultative Assembly.

Silayev Receives Iranian Minister Nabavi
LD2607213589 Moscow TASS in English 1530 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Ivan Silayev received today Iran's Minister of Heavy Industry Behzad Nabavi. The two men discussed ways of developing Soviet-Iranian cooperation in the field of machine building.

The meeting was attended by Iran's Ambassador to the Soviet Union Naser Heyrani-Nobari.

Iranian Views of Afghan Developments Discussed
LD2507125489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 25 Jul 89

[Report by Boris Andrianov; date and place not given]

[Text] Western news agencies are turning their attention to an interview given to Iranian radio by Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati on his return from Pakistan. The problem of Afghanistan is one of the most important in the region, Velayati notes. The position of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the solution of this issue is that the fate of Afghanistan must be determined by the people of that country themselves. We, Velayati stressed, resolutely reject any foreign interference in deciding the fate of that country. Here is a Mayak commentary. Over to Boris Andrianov:

[Andrianov] In my view what the Iranian Foreign Minister said in this interview relates fully to Pakistan, for the Islamabad regime clearly sees the escalation of the war in Afghanistan as a means to fulfill their plan to establish their own influence in the region. It is with this precise aim in view that this plan envisages a pro-Pakistani administration coming to power in Kabul.

Of course, this kind of strategy by Islamabad relies on the support of Washington, which is aspiring to strengthen the U.S. military presence in Southwest Asia. Understanding is beginning to strengthen among the Afghan people that the so-called provisional government cobbled together by the alliance of seven opposition groups along with its armed units serves merely as a tool for foreign states aspiring to eliminate the independence of Afghanistan.

To judge from everything, Washington seriously calculated that after the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, that country, like an overripe apple, would fall into the hands of the armed opposition which had been so fostered by the United States. But it became clear that this was no apple but a pretty hard nut which its teeth simply could not manage. Time has shown that the antigovernment forces cannot achieve victory as Washington desires, despite its massive military aid and political support.

Kabul's troops are delivering mighty blows against opposition units, blows from which it later takes them a long time to recover having lost their fighting spirit.

And so Washington should try to analyze the real reason for the strength of the Kabul Government, which is trying to achieve national reconciliation and for the defeat of the Afghan opposition, whose action since the withdrawal of Soviet forces has virtually turned into a war against their own people, to which the latter respond with disgust and hatred for the extremists. But no. Instead of any such healthy, critical analysis, Washington has decided that things can be put to rights by gambling on force yet again - the arming and operation with systems capable of wrecking airports and destroying aircraft on the ground.

But has it not occurred to the people across the ocean that Kabul too, taking countermeasures in response to such actions, might also in time with the help of the latest weaponry which has not yet been used by any Afghan armed forces act more effectively to smash bases, dumps, and camps belonging to the armed opposition and also those who are inciting it to continue the bloodshed.

That is by no means a rhetorical question but a perfectly serious one. And so it demands that those who still do not wish to use peaceful means to achieve a political settlement of the Afghan problem should ponder on it.

Afghan Fighting Resumes; Rebel Divisions Noted
PM2507102789 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jul 89 Moscow Evening Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA special correspondent M. Yusin Kabul dispatch: "Afghanistan: Fighting After Calm"]

[Text] A distant explosion shattered the peace of the night. A burst of machinegun fire came from somewhere in the city center. Then everything died down. Silence reigned once more over Kabul. Only now its silence seems tense and oppressive.

The 2-day respite bestowed unexpectedly by the war on the Afghan capital at the beginning of this week turned out to be a short period of calm before a new storm. As of Wednesday, rockets rained down once again on the city. Bakhtar reports that as a result of the shelling three peaceful inhabitants died and about 20 people were wounded.

In the Kabul streets you could almost cut the tension with a knife. By the side of the road armored personnel carriers and armored transporters stopped in their tracks, with guns and machineguns aimed at the sky. There are armed patrols at intersections.

According to reports from the fronts, combat operations between government forces and opposition detachments are continuing in several Afghan provinces. They are most fierce in Jalalabad, where the Afghan Army is continuing its advance on the enemy positions. Persistent battles are taking place to the east of the population center at Ghaziabad, which, according to military experts, is of strategic importance.

The Kabul government stated that its armed forces had established control over this region and are continuing to hold on to Ghaziabad, which had been captured earlier. Mujahidin detachments have been driven back in the direction of the Pakistani capital.

"If Kabul's statements on Ghaziabad's capture are borne out, then we witnessed yet one more significant defeat suffered by the mujahidin in the battle for Jalalabad," a "Voice of America" observer covering the situation in Afghanistan stated. It seems that an Afghan television report which was broadcast recently from Ghaziabad removes many doubts concerning the question of whose hands this region is now in.

Commenting on recent events in Afghanistan, the mass media are devoting a great deal of attention to an incident which occurred a few days ago in Takhar province. As already reported, 30 mujahidin, who were in the "Islamic Society of Afghanistan" headed by B. Rabbani, were killed. There were seven field commanders among them. Rabbani states that the murder of his supporters is the work of thugs from the most radical opposition grouping—the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan"—operating under the command of G. Hekmatyar. But the Islamic Party of Afghanistan denies these accusations.

The crisis which has arisen in relations between the two largest parties in the "Peshawar alliance" has caused concern in Washington. The State Department made a special statement on this quest[illegible], sharply condemning the murder of the 30 mujahidin.

But it is unlikely that the internecine strife among the mujahidin will force the Americans to reexamine their Afghan policy and stop even temporarily the flow of military deliveries. Judging from recent reports by the U.S. press, the U.S. Administration is ready to send fresh consignments of weapons and ammunition to the opposition detachments. THE NEW YORK TIMES notes that in the near future the rebels will be sent mortars, artillery rounds, and equipment for clearing minefields. But it is quite probable that the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" will not get this assistance. In any event, the BBC reported, a conference in the State Department discussed the question of whether it is worth, in the light of recent events, reducing or even stopping U.S. military supplies to the Islamic Party of Afghanistan. Anxious about this turn of events, Hekmatyar flew out to the United States, where all the indications are that he is making a last desperate attempt to convince the Americans not to let the "Takhar incident" have serious political consequences.

On the morning of 21 July a delegation from the "Hope" social committee, which is struggling to free our prisoners of war in Afghanistan, flew to Kabul. During the visit it is planned to hold a meeting with President Najibullah, the ministers of defense, internal affairs, and state security, and also, possibly, one of the opposition field commanders. The main aim of the trip is to clarify the conditions on which the Afghan authorities will agree to free imprisoned mujahidin who subsequently could be exchanged for Soviet soldiers who fell into the opposition's hands.

Afghan Military Attache Interviewed

PM2607152589 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jul 89 First Edition p 3

[Interview with Major General Faruq, military attache at the Afghan Embassy in the Soviet Union, conducted by Colonel V. Markushin: "In View of Experience and the Situation"; date and place of interview not specified; first paragraph is KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] The 47-year-old Afghan general, who was born in Lowgar Province, has considerable experience of life and combat behind him. Before becoming a military diplomat he rose from platoon commander to division commander. He did not limit his education to the Kabul Military Institute, he enhanced his professional standard abroad, notably in the Soviet Military Academy named for M.V. Frunze and the General Staff Academy. From Comrade Faruq's laconic answers you are conscious of his sense of patriotism and his profound feelings for his people and its difficult destiny.

[Markushin] Comrade General, the Afghan Government has formulated the country's military doctrine. What does this entail and what is the pivotal basis of this document?

[Faruq] Afghanistan's military doctrine has been elaborated in complete accordance with the country's political course, which aims to put an end to the war and bloodshed and establish peace and national accord. This document reflects Kabul's stance regarding the nature of

international relations that must be built in accordance with the principles of the new political thinking, particularly when resolving regional problems.

The Afghan problem is one of these. It cannot be resolved by military means. Proceeding on this premise, we are implementing the national reconciliation policy. It is this idea which is the cornerstone of Afghanistan's military doctrine.

[Markushin] How can we escape from the conflict situation? What, in your opinion, is the fundamental approach to the establishment of the long-awaited peace?

[Faruq] Naturally the correct way to escape from the conflict situation, which the Afghan Government has proposed, can be conceived diagrammatically as a triangle, the corners of which are the proposals on a cease-fire and on holding talks, and on the creation of a coalition (division of power).

As far as I know our armed forces have unilaterally announced a cease-fire on several occasions, and this cease-fire was observed until they were attacked. We began talks with many field commanders from the armed opposition and also with some of the leaders of the "seven-member alliance." However, the talks with the former were more successful, which, in my opinion, proves the dependence of the "seven-member alliance" on the U.S. and Pakistani special services.

I must point out that the cease-fire helped initiate talks in certain areas between field commanders and the representatives of state power. Local coalition organs of government were set up as a result in a number of provinces and districts. That is, the "triangle" which I mentioned is bearing real fruit.

[Markushin] The United States and Pakistan are stepping up military pressure on Kabul and are increasing arms shipments to the Afghan opposition. In this connection what can you say about the effect the real military-political situation is having on determining the Afghan Army's operational methods?

[Faruq] Arms shipments to the opposition aggravate the problem. We regard the Bush administration's decision as a step designed to annihilate Afghanistan's innocent inhabitants. Washington's double-dealing illustrates that it only verbally wants a peaceful settlement of the Afghan problem and is in fact fanning the flames of war and fratricide. The involvement of units of the Pakistani Army's 11th and 18th Divisions in the fighting around Jalalabad attests to the increase in Pakistani interference.

Our armed forces' operational methods are determined on the basis of the current situation. In the 5 months since the Soviet troops withdrew from Afghan territory the Afghan Army has independently defended the motherland. Taking into account the experience it has obtained, the country's military-political leadership is making definite changes to the structure of the armed forces. The creation of national regiments to guard the borders and transport arteries and the inclusion of former bandit formations in self-defense detachments serve as an example of this.

[Markushin] How far does the political work among Afghan Army personnel correspond with the tasks facing the country?

[Faruq] Political work in units and formations is undergoing change. Many party officials from the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee and provincial and municipal committees have been drafted into the Army. More than 60 percent of all party members are now in the Armed Forces. In the front ranks during combat operations they set servicemen an example through their personal courage, carry out great educative work among soldiers, and skillfully take into consideration national and cultural features and traditions. Patriotic representatives of the clergy are offering great assistance. Every company has its own mullah who not only performs religious rites but also exerts an educative influence on soldiers and the local population. At the present time it is important to tell soldiers and the population the truth about the atrocities perpetrated by the extremists and about who is the true enemy of Islam masquerading as its defender. In general, the truth is necessary, and that is the main task of political work at the present.

'Saboteur' Paraded at Kabul News Conference

PM2607145389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Special correspondent M. Yusin report: "Saboteur From Pakistan: Pakistani Intelligence Prepared a Terrorist Action on Soviet-Afghan Border"]

[Text] Kabul—Mokhtiyar Gol [name as transliterated], a citizen of Pakistan, appeared before journalists at a news conference at the Afghan Foreign Ministry Sunday. He had been arrested by Afghan security organs 6 July in the northern province of Konduz. During the investigation Mokhtiyar Gol admitted that he, a Pakistani intelligence officer, had prepared sabotage operations on the Soviet-Afghan border.

A well-built young Pushtun came into the room escorted by three guards. One was immediately struck by his composure and self-confidence, which were not shaken even by the unenviable position in which he found himself. From a document prepared by the Afghan Foreign Ministry and distributed to journalists before the news conference began we had already learned the main aspects of this man's biography and the reasons for his unlawful presence in a neighboring country.

Aged 25, Mokhtiyar Gol was born in Peshawar and studied medicine but had not completed his education. In 1985 he became a Pakistani intelligence agent. Pakistani special services instructors soon trained him to handle explosives and to swim underwater. By all accounts from the first few months of Mokhtiyar Gol's time at the Pakistani intelligence department his leaders knew what precise mission would be entrusted to the young agent. And so specifically targeted training was conducted.

Mokhtiyar Gol soon went from Islamabad to the "Fatah" training center in Peshawar where sabotage specialists (mainly from Arab countries) became involved in the affair: Under their direction he received a course of individual military training. Mokhtiyar Gol told the investigators that one of the instructors was an American adviser known to him only under the undoubted alias of "Abdul Khakim" [name as transliterated]. Initially it was planned that "Abdul Khakim" would enter Afghan territory as part of the sabotage group. At the last moment, however, the latter changed his plans and stayed in Pakistan.

On 25 February 1989 Mokhtiyar Gol with a detachment of 30 mujahidin belonging to G. Hekmatyar's Islamic Party of Afghanistan, crossed the Afghan-Pakistan border. They were accompanied by several other saboteurs from Pakistan and one from Turkey.

The plan which Mokhtiyar Gol and his accomplices were meant to carry out had been devised at the beginning of the year in Pakistan with the active involvement of Saudi advisers. The saboteurs were instructed to begin by studying the situation in the region of the "Druzhba" rail bridge over the Amu Darya River, across which freight is supplied from the Soviet Union to Afghanistan: They were to photograph military and transport vessels on the river as well as installations on the Soviet side, to study the hydrological situation (the depth and width of the Amu Darya in various places), and to examine the possibility of fording the river. The detachment's main mission was to blow up the "Druzhba" bridge using underwater mines.

This admission by Mokhtiyar Gol explained why the Afghan security services discovered diving suits and a large quantity of mines when arresting the saboteurs. Apart from the destruction of the bridge across the Amu Darya, Pakistani intelligence had prepared plans to mine ships on the river and set off explosions in the Afghan port of Shir Khan. And, finally, there was another mission which Mokhtiyar Gol admitted he was given by his leaders—to organize a missile attack on the Tarangozar railroad station and other facilities on Soviet territory.

It still isn't known who initiated this action, at what level in Islamabad the decision to prepare it was taken, and whether Pakistan's top leadership knew about it. One would like to believe that it did not and that this time, too, the Pakistani military went over the government's head, because only an unscrupulous and irresponsible political intriguer could decide on such an absurd and utterly futile move. It is hard to believe that Islamabad does not realise what consequences such provocation against the Soviet Union may have.

Mokhtiyar Gol gave no intelligible answer to the journalists' persistent questions about the point of firing on Soviet territory now, when our army is no longer taking part in the Afghan war. "My task was to carry out a missile attack on Soviet territory," he repeated, as though from a prepared text, without clarifying the technical details of the operations or the number of missiles it was planned to use.

The Afghan authorities are continuing their investigation into the Mokhtiyar Gol case. Possibly it will help to clarify some further aspects of the subversive activity which Pakistani intelligence is conducting in a neighboring state.

While the news conference was in progress there were several explosions outside the ministry. The missile attacks on Afghan territory continue day and night, sowing panic among the city's population. People prefer not to stay in tbeir homes. The constantly noisy and varied Kabul streets are ominously deserted and silent.

The city seems to have frozen, unable to recover after the appalling tragedy on Saturday when two missiles in quick succession scored a direct hit on a bus stop on a busy street in central Kabul. Around 40 people were killed on the spot and over 100 were injured.

Article Views Lebanon Situation

PM2607142589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 89 Second Edition p 6

[Article by Yuriy Glukhov under the rubric "View from Moscow": "Lebanese Knot"]

[Text] The guns are talking in Lebanon again. Fiercely and bullyingly. Yet again fire has gripped quarters of West and East Beirut and other regions of the country split into warring zones. Yet again the artillery exchange is threatening to stifle the voices calling for peace and reason.

And again you can see how the Lebanese crisis is continuing to develop when it seemed already to have reached its climax. It seems to be proceeding in three dimensions, in three circles.

The first circle is Israel's aggression and imperialist interference in Lebanese affairs. Back in 1978 the Israeli military undertook a large-scale invasion of Lebanese territory. In 1982 Tel Aviv's interference developed into open intervention right up to the seizure of West Beirut

and the many years' occupation of South Lebanon, which continues to this day. Some Lebanese territory has been turned into a "buffer zone."

Israel's aggression in that same year of 1982 was in fact supported by the United States by not only political and economic but also military means. Under the flag of the "multinational force" NATO troops landed in Beirut while the U.S. 6th fleet blockaded the Lebanese seaboard together with French and British ships. And although the West's overt armed interference has ceased, connivance with Israeli aggression is continuing.

The second circle is inter-Arab involvement in Lebanese affairs.

The aggravation of Lebanese-Palestinian contradictions in 1975 (and about 300,000 Palestinians fleeing Israeli aggression have found refuge in Lebanon) has led to a whole chain of events. At the invitation of the official Lebanese authorities Syrian troops on the side of the Maronite Christians entered Lebanon. Subsequently they were diluted by subunits from other Arab countries but then they remained alone again, retaining the status of inter-Arab peacekeeping forces in Lebanon.

Right now the Syrian military corps, according to some estimates, is about 40,000 men and controls many regions of Lebanese territory. But some of their recent allies—the Christians—now act in the role of opponents of Syria. The national-patriotic forces of Lebanon—the Progressive Socialist Party, the Lebanese Communists, the "Amal" shi'ite movement, and a number of other organizations—are in alliance with Damascus.

Lebanese-Palestinian relations remain complex after the armed clashes now with the thugs of the right-wing Christian "Lebanese forces," now with detachments of the "Amal" movement. The Palestinians' military presence in Lebanon was regulated by the Cairo agreements, but they have been annulled by the country's parliament. The Lebanese do not want to allow the Palestinians' uncontrolled actions against the Israeli aggressors from their territory. The shadow of the "war of the camps" is also overshadowing Palestinian-Syrian relations.

The third circle of the Lebanese crisis—internal Lebanese contradictions—also remains closed. For the 15th year in succession Lebanon is in a state of civil war. Intercommunity hostility has been sharply aggravated in a country where there are about two dozen religious-ethnic communities. There has been a split into individual zones. The activity of the central authorities has been paralyzed. Since 23 September last year the post of president has been vacant. There are two rival governments. One is in the Eastern, so-called Christian zone and is headed by General M. 'Awn, the commander of the Lebanese Army. The other is in the Western, so-called Muslim zone, and is headed by S. al-Huss.

The stumbling block of internal political differences is the state structural system. It is archaic. Individual posts (president or prime minister) are strictly allocated to individual communities. Democratic Lebanon is essentially antidemocratic. It fails to ensure equal rights for all its citizens. But the breaking up of the traditional system, which is a requirement of the day, is an agonizing process. It is accompanied by the implementation of radical reforms, the abolition of the privileges of some people and the elimination of the frustration of others and the development of a new, balanced, formula for national consensus.

The picture of the Lebanese situation looks even more enigmatic and confused than an abstract painting if you consider the involvement of other countries, both Arab and non-Arab. For instance, Iraq supports 'Awn's government. Iran supports the Lebanese shi'ites and particularly the Hizballah organization and Iranian volunteers have settled in Ba'alabakk. Woven into this motley canvas are the presence of the UN forces for keeping peace in Lebanon and many other factors like, for instance, the international terrorism which finds a hothouse environment here. In brief, it is hard to imagine a more intricate knot.

It is obvious that under these conditions detente should proceed in all directions, on all parameters of the Lebanese crisis. It is these ideas which were placed in the recent Statement of the USSR and France on Lebanon. It contains a call for an immediate ceasefire and its strict observance. This step is viewed as an essential condition for establishing constructive intra-Lebanese dialogue with a view to the restoration of national consensus and the peaceful structuring of life on the basis of the balance of interests of all Lebanese communities. Measures should also be urgently taken to ensure the effective ending of arms deliveries to any conflicting Lebanese groupings. After all, alarming reports have already appeared of a new spiral of the arms race—deliveries of missile launchers to East Beirut.

At the pan-Arab level serious attempts are already being made to lead Lebanon out of the impasse. A committee of three of the Arab League is operating. The USSR and France have already expressed their readiness to do everything to promote its peacemaking efforts designed to clear the way to national conciliation. But it is distressing to observe the wheel of pan-Arab actions again, as at previous stages of the Lebanese crisis, turning slowly, squeakily, and very belatedly.

The task facing the committee brooks no delay. Arabs are killing Arabs. And their losses are far more substantial than in the struggle against the Israeli aggressor. Lebanon is becoming a permanent arena for inter-Arab and inter-Lebanese clashes. There is a real threat of an anti-Syrian front and an offshoot of the Iran-Iraq conflict opening up here, which would only be to Tel Aviv's advantage and would have the most dangerous consequences for the situation in the region.

The development of the Lebanese crisis has long provided several instructive lessons. First, it cannot be regulated by violent means. For instance, the option of a U.S.-Israeli settlement has failed. Although the United States and Israel succeeded in imposing on Lebanon the crushing agreement of 17 May 1983, it was stillborn.

Equally neither of the sides in the internal Lebanese conflict can dictate its will to the other, even by forming an alliance with outside forces. Yet such an attempt was made by 'Awn, who resorted to military pressure and the blockading of the ports of the Western zone and threw down a challenge to the "Syrian occupation." These actions provoked the present aggravation of the Lebanese crisis. Adventurism should be categorically ruled out in the tense situation which has taken shape in Lebanon but unfortunately it is inherent in all conflicting sides.

The Lebanese situation allows Tel Aviv to fish in murky waters. For decades Israeli propaganda has been sowing the seeds of distrust and hostility between Palestinians and Lebanese, although the former and the latter are equally victims of the aggressor. For decades national-religious friction has been kindled in Lebanon in order to create an insuperable barrier between Christians and Muslims. For decades there has been direct armed interference in the affairs of a neighboring country. Even during the present development of events Tel Aviv has been able to emplace "Hawk" missiles in the occupied part of Lebanon. The Israeli export of ships proceeding to the ports of the Eastern zone, which has declared "war" on Syria, looks like a provocative challenge.

The flare-up of the Lebanese crisis is raising again and again the question of ending Israeli aggression against Lebanon and of fulfilling the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The fragile vessel of national consensus and the country's sovereignty and integrity will collapse under the blows of gross interference. The settlement of the situation in and around Lebanon dictates the need for a global settlement in the region and the convening of a peace conference on the Near East.

Official Interviewed on Palestinian Cause, Israel

JN2607194689 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic
24 Jul 89 pp 1, 15

[Interview with Boris Sevostyanov, director of information at the USSR Foreign Ministry, name and title as published by unidentified reporter in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] [Reporter] Some observers who are closely monitoring the changes underway in the USSR believe that Moscow under perestroyka has reduced its support for liberation movements. How true are these claims?

[Sevostyanov] I cannot agree with them. I can confidently say that with the emergence of the new political thinking, our country has made progress in settling several of the most serious issues of this age, thus fulfilling the interests of friendly countries and people. One of these important events was the conclusion of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan. The USSR played its part in halting the Iraq-Iran war, reaching an agreement on a settlement in South Africa, and reducing the tension in other hotbeds of the world. The USSR intends to pursue its efforts to convene the international Middle East peace conference. It also encourages and supports all positive steps toward Arab unity and toward making the Arab countries carry out a constructive dialogue with respect to a settlement in the Middle East. We have said this in public and on all levels; and we have expressed our support for the efforts in Lebanon by the Arab League tripartite committee as well as our readiness to support its peaceful efforts in all places and at all times.

Everybody knows the USSR's support for the PLO as the Palestinian Arab people's sole legitimate representative, and that the USSR's activities in foreign policy in recent years for the sake of peace and security, and the entrenchment of the people's independence and sovereignty, have become more dynamic and effective. This is ackowledged by other countries.

[Reporter] Many in the Arab world say that the Soviet Union's voice in supporting the intifadah [uprising] can barely be heard. What do you have to say to this?

[Sevostyanov] Not a day passes without the Soviet press and television reporting in Russian and other foreign languages on this issue by denouncing the campaign of persecution that the Israeli authorities are carrying out against civilians in the occupied Arab territories, and by expressing support for the Arabs' just demands. Soviet officials have more than once praised this popular movement highly. In his letter to Moroccan King Hassan II in May-June this year, Mikhail Gorbachev affirmed that the circumstances in Middle East are now propitious for peace. This has become possible thanks first and foremost to the steadfastness and heroism of the Palestinian inhabitants on the West Bank of the Jordan River and in the Gaza Strip who have been pursuing their heroic and peaceful intifadah against the Israeli occupation for more than 1 year. What is important too is that the intifadah enjoys the staunch support of the Arab people, the socialist and nonaligned countries, and public opinion in both East and West.

[Reporter] The Arabs expected that Moscow would adopt a firmer stand on the Israeli terrorism against the Palestinian people by bringing pressure to bear on the United States and by intensifying its activities in international organizations. Why does the USSR not explicitly state that it will not resume diplomatic relations with Israel unless it withdraws from the occupied territories?

[Sevostyanov] As I have already mentioned, the USSR incessantly condemns Israeli terrorism against the Palestinian people in all its forms. In their contacts with foreign officials, and at the United Nations, and in their contacts with the Israelis, USSR officials always abide by

our country's stand in support of the Palestinians. We stick to our position when the discussions deal with the question of the normalization of relations with Israel. This position is that these relations can resume their normal course only within the framework of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East which must, of course, provide for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

With respect to the international aspect of this issue USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze meticulously defined our position in the speech he delivered in Cairo during his tour of several Middle Eastern countries in February this year. The USSR minister pointed out that the USSR calls in this respect for avoiding any manifestation of rivalry between the great powers and that the policy of mutual displacement from the region must be shunned and be replaced by constructive cooperation for the sake of peace and calm in the Middle East.

Syrian Training Ship Visits Odessa

PM2507104989 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jul 89 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Syrian Sailors Guests of Odessa"]

[Text] Odessa, 19 Jul—Naval Brigadier General Sha'ban Ka'shur, under whose flag the Syrian Navy training ship "Al-Asad" has been visiting the Black Sea port, has called his 5-day visit to the hero-city a weighty contribution to strengthening the traditional friendship and cooperation between the Syrian and Soviet peoples.

The voyage commander, representatives of the civilian authorities, and Odessa's senior naval chief exchanged visits. The Syrian naval seamen visited industrial enterprises, kindergartens, sanatoriums, museums, and theaters, were guests of Soviet young people at a friendship party at the Palace of Students, saw the sights of the city, and laid wreaths at the monument to the unknown sailor on Glory Avenue.

The Syrian sailors' visit ends today.

Near East Envoy Tarasov Interviewed

PM2707102989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by A. Ostalskiy: "No Sensation"; first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] On Wednesday the Western news agency reported as a sensation the meeting between G.P. Tarasov, the USSR's special representative for the Near East, and Nimrod Novik, assistant to the Israeli vice prime minister, and this Soviet diplomat's possible trip to Israel in the very near future. An IZVESTIYA correspondent asked G. Tarasov to comment on these reports.

"There is no sensation. Ordinary diplomatic work requiring constant efforts is under way. Taking an active part in the quest for ways of settling the Near East conflict, the Soviet Union naturally maintains regular contacts with all interested sides. It is time journalists were used to this; after all this work will continue in the future. This year the Soviet special representative has already visited Damascus, Cairo, and Amman. Last week I met in Tunis with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and other Palestinian leaders—it was a very useful meeting. Of course, we cannot overlook Israel—a direct participant in the conflict. In addition to dialogue at foreign minister level contacts are also being made through the two countries' consular groups in Moscow and Tel Aviv, respectively. On Tuesday I received A. Levin, the leader of the Israeli group, and while I was stopping over in Paris, also within the procedure for maintaining contacts, I met with N. Novik. I want to note that in contacts with all sides involved the main aim remains primarily the preparation and organization of an international peace conference on the Near East."

"Gennadiy Pavlovich, did you succeed in achieving anything specific during these meetings?"

"Let's not be hasty. It seems to me that at present it would be premature to talk about this: Diplomacy requires patience and a certain delicacy. I can say one thing: We firmly hope that a Near East settlement will be put on a practical footing."

"And how do matters stand with regard to your trip to Israel? Will it indeed take place or are the Western agencies wrong?"

"If the situation takes shape in such a way that this trip will be useful to the cause of a settlement, then why should it not take place at a suitable time? In my opinion, everything is acceptable which works toward a settlement and toward transferring it to a practical footing."

Sub-Saharan Africa

Commentary Views OAU Heads of State Summit

EA2607172589 Moscow International Service in Somali 1600 GMT 25 Jul 89

[Commentary from "World Events Today" program]

[Text] The OAU heads of state summit continues in Addis Ababa and we welcome you to a commentary on this subject. Items to be discussed at the meeting will concern the situation in the south of the continent, especially Namibia's independence and the increase in South Africa's isolation. Other important items will be reviews of Africa's foreign debt and the economic cooperation between African governments. The summit will also listen to speeches on the current human rights

situation in the continent and on Africa's environmental situation. Most of these issues were raised during the speech of the outgoing OAU chairman, the president of Mali, Moussa Traore.

As Namibia's independence nears, he pointed out that it was one of the major victories achieved between this and the last summit. He thought that Namibia would inevitably achieve its independence, even though South Africa was hindering the reality. It was worth noting, Moussa Traore said, the events taking place in Angola and Western Sahara, in which the OAU and United Nations were playing an important role.

It was important to strengthen economic cooperation between African governments, by forming economic markets in the African continent.

At the summit a new OAU chairman was elected. The Egyptian president, Husni Mubarak, became the chairman. In his address, he urged African countries to cooperate with the developed north on economics and the conservation of the environment. His speech concerned the solving of the problem which worried the world. It was important to negotiate and avoid disagreements and fighting.

Husni Mubarak reminded the OAU heads of state summit of the proposals made by the four countries at the Paris summit to the seven Western industrialized nations. This proposal, made by four developing countries, called for negotiations with developed countries on the debt of developing countries.

Among the four countries were Egypt and Senegal. The new OAU chairman pointed out that there were matters on which it was not possible to reach agreement with those countries. He called for confrontation with the racist South African raids [passage indistinct].

Mozambican Party Congress Opening Reported

MB2507130189 Moscow in English to Southern Africa 1900 GMT 24 Jul 89

[Text] The Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] Party has convened for a fifth congress in Maputo.

The congress is to determine ways of development in Mozambique for the next 5 years and take important decisions in light of the country's external and internal policies, to [word indistinct] ways of settling the long conflict in the country, and to restore the national economy. The past few years have been hard for the country, said Frelimo's chairman, President Joaquim Chissano, who opened the congress. Nevertheless, the party managed to make its first steps on the road of economic revival [word indistinct] unity within its ranks, and consolidate its unity with the people. Discussions held on the aims of the conference involved both party members and the nation as a whole [words indistinct] creative potentialities of Mozambican rallied behind [words indistinct] party of the nation, President Chissano said.

Mozambique's Chissano Cited on Rebels, Relations

PM2507115189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent B. Pilyatskin report: "Mozambique: The President Proposes Peace"]

[Excerpts] News conferences by the head of state are an unusual event in Mozambique. This is why representatives of the mass media were looking forward to the announced meeting with President Joaquim Chissano with particular interest. And they were not disappointed. The president made what was essentially a sensational statement proposing peace to the antigovernment "Mozambique National Resistance" (Renamo) grouping. The gist of what he said was that conditions now existed for a dialogue between the rival forces and for a quest for a compromise solution. This would make it possible to end the years of bloodshed which have brought incalculable privations to the people, undermined the economy, and paralyzed normal life in the country. [passage omitted]

Does this mean that the Mozambique leadership is renouncing a military solution of this problem?—the president was asked.

[Chissano] Even during the national liberation struggle we favored a political solution. This is all the more feasible in the current conditions.

I asked the president whether Renamo was still receiving support from the Republic of South Africa [RSA].

In our opinion, J. Chissano replied, neither the RSA Government, nor the army, nor the security forces are supplying material aid to Renamo. However, there are elements in the RSA which sympathize with and back Renamo.

The news conference concluded with one more question from IZVESTIYA: Enumerating the countries with which the government of Mozambique is maintaining contacts with a view to achieving a settlement, you did not mention the Soviet Union, Mr President....

I did not cite an exhaustive list, J. Chissano replied. As for the Soviet Union, we are constantly briefing each other. The Mozambique peace initiative was discussed during the talks with Anatoliy Adamishin, USSR deputy foreign minister, when he visited Maputo recently. And, of course, the consultations will continue.

Angolan Government's Denial of Rebel Talks Noted
PM2507084389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Government Rebuttal"]

[Text] Luanda, 18 Jul—Reports in the Portuguese press that a meeting is being prepared between President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola and Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], have been denied by the Angolan Government. As an Angolan Government spokesman has stated here, this question was not discussed at the meeting of African states' leaders in the Zaire town of Gbadolit [name as transliterated] at the end of June. It was decided at the meeting to form a commission to study ways of integrating UNITA members into Angolan society through the mediation of the president of Zaire, he said in an interview with ANGOP, the Angolan news agency. The commission's second session is to be held in the near future in Kinshasa. The purpose of the reports on the possibility of a meeting between the Angolan president and the UNITA leader is to mislead Angolan and world public opinion.

Adamishin Meets South African Church Head
PM2507112989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 18 July a conversation took place in the Soviet Foreign Ministry between A.L. Adamishin, USSR deputy foreign minister, and F. Chikane, a prominent member of the South African democratic movement and general secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

Zambian National Assembly Delegation Arrives
MB2507125989 Moscow in English to Southern Africa 1900 GMT 24 Jul 89

[Text] A delegation of the National Assembly of Zambia has arrived in Moscow, on 24 July, at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The delegation is led by Mr (Olu Kita).

East Europe

Jaruzelski Election as Polish President Viewed
PM2507101189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jul 89 Second Edition p 7

[TASS correspondent V. Volkov dispatch: "W. Jaruzelski Is President of Poland"]

[Text] Warsaw—On 19 July the Polish National Assembly—the joint sitting of the Sejm and the Senate—elected the country's distinguished public and political figure Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee, by a majority of votes, to the post of president of the Polish People's Republic. The president, elected for 6 years and endowed with sweeping powers, is required to guarantee the continuation of the process of change on the road to socialist parliamentary democracy and ensure stability, state security, and national consensus. The result of the open ballot by name was an overall majority of valid votes—270—for the candidacy of W. Jaruzelski, nominated by the ruling coalition. There were 283 deputies and senators who voted against and 34 abstentions. The President of Poland was sworn in.

The results of the vote mirrored the complexity of the sociopolitical situation in Poland and the very difficult and drawn-out process of nominating a candidate for the presidency and securing the overall majority needed to get him elected.

The PZPR leader was asked about 50 questions during a 5 and 1/2-hour meeting with the Citizens' Parliamentary Club, which brings together those elected on the "Solidarity" election slate. This meeting, the first of its kind with a wide opposition circle, helped the deputies and senators to clarify many things, to eliminate unnecessary emotions, and to rise above previous arguments and resentments despite the obvious differences of opinion.

W. Jaruzelski's recent international meetings were of great significance—his work at the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee conference, the fruitful conversation in Bucharest with M.S. Gorbachev, and the talks with French President F. Mitterrand and U.S. President G. Bush during their visits to Poland, which were crowned with concrete results testifying to the improvement of Poland's relations with leading Western countries.

In a short statement after his election, W. Jaruzelski expressed his gratitude for the trust placed in him and stated that he would do everything in his power to fulfill the difficult duty with which he has been entrusted. I want to be a president of harmony, a representative of all Poles, he stressed. We are living in a time of crisis. There is a sea of problems facing Poland. It is necessary to restructure the economy and form a new, democratic order. For this, it is necessary to combine all the resources of social energy and collaboration among all the forces represented in parliament in the spirit of the broadest consensus. Now the most important and urgent matter is to resolve the problems of material living conditions and to reach a new, higher level of economic efficiency and at the same time not to lose a single principle of social justice, or the dignity of the working man. The Polish president spoke in support of the formation of a government of national consensus capable of fulfilling these tasks.

Again the attention of the whole world is centered on Poland, the president stressed in conclusion. The maturity and responsibility of the Polish nation can be a

valuable contribution to the history of the late 20th century. We must make every effort to make sure that the restructuring of the socialist formation and changes in the European situation bear fruit for the good of Poland, its democracy and security, and the indestructibility of its borders and international position.

The president's speech was received with applause from the deputies and senators, including those on the opposition benches.

Lech Walesa, the leader of "Solidarity," sent W. Jaruzelski a letter congratulating him on being elected Polish president. He reaffirmed the desire to cooperate with a view to resolving the country's problems.

Correspondent on Jaruzelski Election

PM2507082889 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by TASS correspondent A. Pershin specially for IZVESTIYA under the rubric "Panorama of International Events": "Wojciech Jaruzelski—President of Poland"]

[Excerpts] Warsaw—It was past midnight in Moscow when the counting of votes cast for the sole candidate to the post of the Polish presidency—W. Jaruzelski—began in the Polish Parliament building. The vote in the National Assembly was open and by name. When the tellers commission tipped the ballot papers, each personally signed by a senator or a deputy of the Sejm, straight onto the tables in the sessions hall no one was indifferent. [passage omitted]

Although the candidate for the presidency was not present at the National Assembly session—in line with the established regulations—until the moment when the results of the vote were announced and did not answer parliamentarians' questions, which aroused frank indignation among a substantial proportion of the Sejm deputies and senators who make up the National Assembly, the statements by the chairmen of the parties' deputy floor groups and organizations of lay Catholics and Christians incorporated in the allied coalition, and also the opposition, provided a perfectly clear answer to the distribution of forces in parliament.

The coalition's support for W. Jaruzelski's nomination was determined by a perfectly straightforward number of factors. For example, the Democratic Party is insisting on full realization of the principles of political pluralism, including the adoption of a law on political parties by the Sejm this year, which would open up a legal road into the arena of social life for new forces and organizations. J. Janowski, chairman of the Democratic Party deputy floor group, did not refrain from addressing specific observations to the candidate. He pointed out that they are mainly concentrating on W. Jaruzelski's activity in the Polish United Workers Party (PZPR) Central Committee Politburo and the government in the period 1968-1980.

The United Peasants' Party is demanding that rural areas be addressed and the basic demands of the peasantry met, primarily concerning guarantees of profitability for agricultural output.

Making it clear that it is in the minority in the National Assembly as it now stands and consequently is not trying for the post of head of state, the opposition Lay Parliamentarian Floor Group also expressed its views. They come down to the fact that the next elections should be completely free—in other words, that a set allocation of seats in parliament should not be stipulated in advance and also that the new president should be elected in a general, direct vote.

Taking his oath, the Polish president made a brief speech. [passage omitted]

The head of the Polish state is going to have more than enough problems and worries, and major problems await him. Not without reason, the chairman of the PZPR deputy floor group stressed that the PZPR sees W. Jaruzelski as the man capable of rising above parties, differences, and conflicts and becoming the president of all Poles.

Political and state stability in the conditions of radically restructuring all aspects of life and economic structures, which is associated with inevitable social costs, depends to a considerable extent on whether he will be able to play this role.

Although there are more than enough problems in Poland today, the main problems are in the economy, which is in urgent need of improvement. The crisis in the national economy acts as a catalyst for social stress. Hence the enormous interest in one of the first decisions the president will have to make: the appointment of a head of government. Under the constitution, he will be responsible for putting together a cabinet of ministers, who will bear the main burden of restructuring the economy.

An interesting detail: The first person to congratulate W. Jaruzelski on his election as president was the leader of "Solidarity," Lech Walesa. In a letter to the Polish leader he spoke of his wish to work together to solve the country's problems. There is a basis for public consensus. Time will tell whether it is translated into real action.

Yakovlev, Zaykov Receive Polish Society Chairman

PM2507104389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jul 89 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report under general heading "Meetings at the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A.N. Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a talk 20 July with H. Bednarski, chairman of the Main Board of the

Polish-Soviet Friendship Society, who is in the Soviet Union in connection with the festivities devoted to the 45th anniversary of the rebirth of Poland. Topical questions of the further improvement and deepening of ties between the Soviet and the Polish public were discussed.

On the same day, H. Bednarski was received by L.N. Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moscow City CPSU Committee. Their conversation passed in a cordial, comradely atmosphere.

Soviet Bodies Greet Poles on Rebirth Jubilee
PM2507133789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 89 Second Edition p 1

[Soviet leading bodies' greetings message to Polish leaders on 45th anniversary of Poland's rebirth; not dated]

[Text] To Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee and president of the Polish People's Republic To Comrade Mieczyslaw Rakowski, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers Dear Comrades!

On the occasion of a memorable event—the 45th anniversary of Poland's rebirth—the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the entire Soviet people send you and all the working people of the Polish People's Republic cordial congratulations and best wishes.

The recreation of an independent Polish state within historically just borders which became possible as a result of the country's liberation from the Hitlerite invaders paved the way to national rebirth.

The Soviet Union treasures the relations of firm friendship and close multifaceted ties between our countries and peoples, which are in keeping with their fundamental long-term interests. We are deeply convinced of the mutual benefit of the further qualitative renewal of Soviet-Polish cooperation in all spheres on the basis of the principles of sovereign equality, mutual advantage, reciprocal responsibility, and strengthened collaboration between socialist countries.

People in our country are following with profound interest the efforts of the PZPR, allied parties, and all constructive patriotic forces aimed at resolving complex problems pertaining to the country's sociopolitical and socioeconomic development, the establishment of a socialist parliamentary democracy, and the consolidation of the policy of reforms and national accord. We highly value the Polish People's Republic's important role in the struggle to ensure security in Europe and to strengthen peace throughout the world.

We wish you, dear comrades, and all the Polish working people, success in resolving the tasks confronting your country, happiness, peace, and prosperity.

CPSU Central Committee
USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
USSR Council of Ministers

Zaykov Attends Polish Ambassador's Reception
PM2507084289 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "In Connection With the Holiday"]

[Text] In connection with the National Day—the 45th anniversary of Poland's rebirth—W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR, held a reception 21 July.

The reception was attended by L.N. Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; R.N. Nishanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities; I.P. Aboimov, USSR deputy foreign minister, and other officials.

Hungarian Party Leaders Meet With Intelligentsia
PM2507113789 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 21 Jul 89 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Hungary: Meeting with Intelligentsia"]

[Text] Hungarian newspapers carry reports on a meeting at the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] Central Committee between MSZMP Chairman R. Nyers, MSZMP General Secretary K. Grosz, and MSZMP Central Committee Secretary J. Barabas and representatives of the Hungarian intelligentsia who sent a letter to the Central Committee in June of this year with views on party policy.

Addressing the gathering, J. Barabas emphasized that the chief task of the MSZMP congress due in October will be to adopt the program and new statutes and also to elect the party's new leadership.

Concerning relations between the party and the intelligentsia, the MSZMP Central Committee secretary pointed to the weakening of ties between them—which is a result of the general crisis of confidence.

The representatives of the intelligentsia participating in the meeting pointed out that the MSZMP has recently been constantly retreating and has been forced to switch to the defensive. This is creating uncertainty among communists. The weakness of the center in the party was pointed to. A clearly defined direction rejecting bourgeois restoration and working for the reform of socialism is not manifested either in the Central Committee or in the party's leading organs.

Responding to the speeches, R. Nyers pointed out that in fact the MSZMP has not switched to the defensive. It simply needed to correct its policy—which created the impression of a retreat. He pointed out that opposition forces have failed to put the MSZMP in the "dock."

GDR Joint Armed Forces Exercises Held

PM2507083489 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jul 89 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exercise Ended"]

[Text] Berlin, 18 Jul—A command and staff exercise of control organs of the Western Group of Forces and the GDR National People's Army was held on GDR territory 11 through 18 July in accordance with the plan for joint measures for the Warsaw Pact states' Joint Armed Forces.

The exercise was directed by Army General P.G. Lushev, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact states' Joint Armed Forces. Army General H. Kessler, GDR minister of national defense, participated in its most important episodes.

The exercise showed the increased standard of training of the allied armies' staffs. It was the practical realization of the main provisions of the Warsaw Pact states' defensive military doctrine and helped to further strengthen combat cooperation between the servicemen of the USSR Armed Forces and the GDR National People's Army.

Romanian Workers' Delegation Visits USSR

PM2507083189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jul 89 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Friendly Contacts"]

[Text] From 12 through 19 July, in line with the plan for interparty ties, a delegation of Romanian Communist Party (RCP) workers led by A. Sechyanu [name as transliterated], secretary of the Neamt RCP Regional Committee, was acquainted with the experience of CPSU work concerning the ideological and political education of Communists. The Romanian comrades had meetings and conversations at the CPSU Central Committee Ideology Department, the Moscow City Party Committee [Gorkom], the Donetsk Ukrainian Communist Party Oblast Committee [Obkom], and a number of ideological institutions and labor collectives.

Bulgarian Turks Reported Returning Home

18070795 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jul 89 First Edition p 4

[Article by Staff Correspondent A. Kapralov in Sofia: "The Muslims Return Home"]

[Text]**The joyless work of the village elder of the town of Veselets in Razgrad Oblast is to seal the houses of those leaving for Turkey. Everyone, up to the last resident, has applied to leave. Over 200 have already abandoned their native areas.**

Several of the Bulgarian Muslims who had yielded to propagandistic subterfuge and blackmail (some were threatened with having their tongue and head cut off if they did not go to Turkey) are already returning.

Thus, on 6 July, 14 Bulgarian citizens returned from Turkey all at once. Incidentally, returning is putting it mildly; it was more akin to breaking through. The Krumov family, father, daughter, husband, two children, aunt and grandmother, had hardly gotten off the train in the Bulgarian city of Svilengrad when they immediately appealed to the authorities to warn remaining relatives not to leave under any circumstances. The Krumovs gave the makes, license numbers, and colors of their relations' cars, in the hope of catching them on Bulgarian territory. Thirteen days in Istanbul proved sufficient to reach the conclusion that "we will never go there again."

Iliya Charnev from the village of Oven said that "half of our people want to return but are afraid that the authorities there will punish them and not let them do that. My heart was heavy the entire month I spent in Turkey. I was only at ease when I got to my native land; even the air is different here..."

Tenth-grader Galin Nikolayev arrived from Turkey illegally; to be precise, he ran away from his parents. They took him by force and did not take their eyes off him during the trip. Only at the Turkish border point of (Kapykule) did Galin manage to carry out his plan: He helped his parents unload the baggage and excused himself to go to the toilet. Then he hurled himself into an empty train car which was being sent back to Bulgaria.

And here is what cousins Niko Aldemirov and Sevdlanin Zakhariyev from the village of Semerdzhiyevo, near Ruse, have to say about their "journey." They set off for Turkey on 14 June without baggage to see how people live in the neighboring country.

Even in (Kapykule) the very first official spoiled their mood: "Why are you not with a family, where is your luggage?" From the border, the cousins went to Luleburgaz, where they searched for their relative without success. And by 20 June, the cousins stood again before the official at the Turkish border point of (Kapykule). The official took their passports: "So, you don't like it here. You want to go back to the nonbelievers. We are looking for spies here, and it seems that they are already among us..."

The cousins were sent to a detention cell.

Sevdlanin related that "after that began the interrogations alternating with beatings. For 11 full days they kept asking us the same question: 'Who are you, and whom are you working for?' Thanks to Niko's daughter-in-law; she saved us, bribing the officials. My heart was at ease only when I got to Bulgarian land."

Also instructive is the history of Genadi Khristov from Razgrad.

"We had firmly resolved to return, but they detained us in (Kapykule) for 2 days. The policeman called me a nonbeliever and a swine, and suggested to my wife that she remain, promising to find her a rich man to marry. I was forced to lie that my relatives in Bulgaria were gravely ill. And I heard the reply: 'Since they're sick, let them die.' Even when we got into the coach the train was held up for an hour so we could change our minds."

Sasho Demirev got off that same train in Svilengrad, and immediately appealed to RABOTNICHESKO DELO correspondent Vanyo Stoilov: "Call my neighbor in Kaspichan and tell him that my wife and daughter Natasha must not leave. I promised to return in 10 days, and today is the 11th."

The correspondent managed to get through to Kaspichan and learned from the neighbor Demirev that no one had gone anywhere, and that the family was happy at the father's return."

One may hear more than a few stories similar to those we cite here. And the Bulgarian press notes that in alien circumstances, many Bulgarians are at a loss, afraid to announce to the Turkish authorities their desire to return to their homeland. It is easy to leave for Turkey, but those who have already been there assert unanimously that it is not so simple to come back.

West Europe

Further Reportage on Yazov, Biryukova UK Visits

Yazov Arrives in Edinburgh

LD2707093489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Text] The Soviet military delegation led by Army General Yazov, USSR defense minister, which is on an official visit to Britain, visited military installations yesterday. In the evening, Comrade Yazov and those accompanying him arrived in Edinburgh. They met the commandant of the Scottish Division, Lieutenant-General John MacMillan, who hosted a dinner in their honor.

Yazov Visits UK Air Bases 26 Jul

LD2607173189 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Leuchars Air Base (Scotland) July 26 TASS—By TASS special correspondent Andrey Biryukov:

The visiting Soviet delegation, led by Defence Minister Army General Dmitriy Yazov, today visited military facilities on the territory of Britain.

In the morning the Soviet minister and his British counterpart George Younger arrived at the Royal Air Force base at Leuchars. At the officer's mess they met with the commanding officers of the base. The Soviet delegation familiarized themselves with the layout of the squadron, reviewed combat planes Phantom, Jaguar, Buccneer and Tornado. Army General Yazov also spoke to the crew of one of the combat planes.

The Hebrides (Scotland) July 26—During a short stopover on the Hebrides the Soviet military delegation visited a British aircraft carrier, the Invincible. The Soviet military leaders familiarized themselves with the capabilities of the HMS Invincible, Sea King helicopters and Sea Harrier VTOL planes carried by it. Friendly conversations took place with officers and men.

More on Thatcher-Yazov Talks

PM2607185989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jul 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit to London"]

[Text] On 25 July Army General D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, left Moscow for London for an official visit at the invitation of G. Younger, British secretary of state for defense.

Army General D.T. Yazov arrived in London the same day.

He was met at the airport by A. Hamilton, British secretary of state for the Armed Forces, and other officials.

British Prime Minister M. Thatcher received Army General D.T. Yazov. During their conversation they discussed disarmament problems and the talks being held with the participation of the Soviet Union and Britain. M. Thatcher asked about progress in developing the perestroyka processes in the Soviet Union and in the work of the newly elected USSR Supreme Soviet and Soviet Government. She expressed support for the practical measures designed to further democratize Soviet society and for the efforts being made by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Some questions of Soviet-British relations were touched on during the exchange of opinions. The sides expressed the shared belief that relations will develop and grow stronger on the basis of the accords reached during the meetings between M.S. Gorbachev and M. Thatcher. The prime minister expressed satisfaction with the fact that this is the first visit to Britain by a Soviet defense minister, which, according to her, underlines the desire of the two countries to establish trust and mutual understanding.

The conversation proceeded in an amicable atmosphere. G. Younger and also L.M. Zamyatin, Soviet ambassador to Britain, took part.

On the same day, the USSR defense minister had a conversation with G. Younger and with T. King, recently appointed to the post of British secretary of state for defense.

The talks will continue.

Biryukova Meets With Ridley, Thatcher

LD2707011589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Jul 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; Vsevolod Shishkovskiy report on A.P. Biryukova's 26 July visits with British Secretary of State for Trade and Industry N. Ridley and British Prime Minister M. Thatcher; with Biryukova recording—date and place not given]

[Text] The visit to Great Britain by a Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Biryukova is continuing.

[Vsevolod Shishkovskiy] After a 2-day journey round the country the Soviet delegation began talks in London today [26 July] with leaders of leading ministries and sectors of British industry. Details are being discussed for the further development of our trade and economic ties. The meeting with [Nicholas] Ridley, the new secretary for trade and industry of Great Britain, has confirmed the existence of good opportunities for expanding cooperation in the light and food industries, as well as increasing the quantity of English goods in Soviet shops. More English medicines and medical equipment will appear in our country.

The heads of the firms Taylor Woodrow and (?Kurt Salmon) acquainted the Soviet delegation with English experience in converting English defense enterprises over to the production of consumer goods. Incidentally, it must be said that with the help of these firms, the modernization of garment factories in Tallin, Riga, and Minsk is being completed and as one of the heads of the firm, (?Walter Hogg), told us, these enterprises are now equipped better than 90 percent of similar factories in the West. Mr. Hogg added that at the present time the firm is completing projected construction of shoe factories in Moscow and Leningrad, a tannery in Kiev, and a number of enterprises of the food industry in other Soviet towns. [video shows street scenes, the Soviet delegation with Biryukova at a meeting with Ridley, the Soviet delegation watching films and slides, and the interview with Walter Hogg.]

This afternoon the head of the Soviet delegation was received by the Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. In an interview with Soviet television Comrade Biryukova said: [Begin Biryukova recording] first of all, I would like to note that the meeting with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the prime minister of Great Britain, took place in a spirit of amicability, in a spirit of a great striving to find ways of further deepening economic and trade cooperation, scientific and technical cooperation. As for my stay here, I think it is extremely useful, and not only that—I think that in the course of this stay we shall manage to resolve several interesting issues and possibly sign several contracts. [End recording] [Video shows Biryukova being received by Thatcher inside Downing Street and being interviews outside No 10]

Primakov Meets With French Senators

PM2707105189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparliamentary Ties"]

[Text] Abandoning the rule whereby hosts and guests take seats on different sides of the people, everyone sat intermingled. Representatives of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the French senators thus as it were specially emphasized their mutual friendly mood. It was in this atmosphere that the meeting took place 25 July in the Soviet of the Union with a delegation from the French Senate commission for foreign affairs, defense, and the armed forces.

The report by Ye.M. Primakov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union, on some aspects of the work of the Soviet parliament under the new conditions made a decisive contribution to familiarizing the senators with perestroyka in the USSR during their visit.

A.S. Dzasokhov, acting chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for International Affairs, took part in the meeting.

On 25 July the delegation from the French Senate's commission for foreign affairs, defense, and the armed forces which is in our country on a visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet committees for international affairs and questions of defense and state security met with A.F. Dobrynin, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Booklet on Gorbachev's Visit to France Issued

LD2407201989 Moscow TASS in English 1727 GMT 24 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS—"Mikhail Gorbachev's Visit to France" is the title of a collection of documents and materials, which has been recently published in Moscow.

The booklet features reports on the Soviet leader's stay in Paris on July 4-5 and in Strasbourg on July 6, 1989, as well as documents adopted and signed during the visit.

The collection was issued by the political literature publishing house.

Paper Hits Assessment of Soviet-Finnish Ties

PM2507141989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Shmyganovskiy report under the rubric "Panorama of International Events": "Flimsy Material"]

[Text] Helsinki—It is not surprising that the article by the Estonian scientist Yu. Kakhk, "Blanks in the History of Soviet-Finnish Relations," published in the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee journal AYA PULS, was immediately noticed in Finland. There are indeed a lot of pages in the history of Soviet-Finnish relations which require in-depth study and the use of new material, and historians evidently are faced with a considerable amount of work to establish the truth. But it seems that the author of the article was attracted by something rather different. The basic idea, in my view, was expressed in the following paragraph: "The time has come to put an end to the annual panegyrics to the Treaty (of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance signed by the Soviet Union and Finland in 1948—V.Sh.)," the author wrote, "and see it for what it really is: a treaty imposed by force on a small country by a great power pursuing a policy of expansion, a treaty which limits that small country's independence and is a threat to it."

Does this sound rather strange to the modern generation? Well, we will continue. "The Soviet Union has the right to demand military consultations from Finland at any time. Military consultations in fact mean that the Soviet Union could possibly demand to station its troops on Finnish territory. The presence of another country's forces on Finnish territory is totally at variance with Finland's policy of neutrality and, in the longer term, means the loss of its sovereignty," the historian wrote, to frighten his Baltic neighbors. This is followed by the inevitable conclusion of all he has said: "'Finlandization' has come to be a negative term signifying another country's dependence on the Soviet Union."

What is this: A free flight of fancy on the part of the historian or an assiduous synopsis of other people's ideas current in the West even quite recently? But even the West is reviewing these notions. There has even been a positive note to some recent writings on "Finlandization," with the Finnish leadership given its due for its farsightedness and flexibility and its efforts to build good relations with all states while relying on strong trust and cooperation with its great neighbor, the Soviet Union.

The historian does not wish to see that the 1948 Treaty is "founded on long-term factors, on geography, and on both the positive and the negative experience of decades, one could even say centuries." These are not my words—they were spoken by the Social Democrat Pertti Paasio, Finland's foreign minister. I could cite other impressive opinions by Finnish conservatives and representatives of the opposition parties. But why state the obvious, especially as this is Yu. Kakhk's pet subject, as they say?

It is characteristic that scientists rather than politicians—and, what is more, scientists who certainly could not be described as holding communist beliefs—Prof D. Ankar from Turku and Prof K. Korhonen [names as published], adviser to the prime minister—described this article in an interview with the newspaper ILTA-SANOMAT as "incompetent sensationalism." They merely reminded people that the treaty was and is a compromise reached between the two countries. The opinions of both sides were taken into consideration.

I personally am interested in another point: Has the historian actually read the text of the treaty? I have already had to write about how some people, who only know of this document by hearsay and are far removed from the world of politics—young Finns in particular—believe that it "obliges Finland to defend the Soviet Union, should it come under attack," that it "does not rule out the possibility of nuclear weapons being stationed on Finnish territory," and so on and so forth. But that can be excused by the naivety of youth... The author of the article can hardly be as ill-informed.

In conclusion I would like to quote the opinion of a most authoritative expert—the president of the country. In an interview with a West German journal M. Koivisto said: "I cannot recall a single occasion when the treaty has had unfavorable consequences for us.

"The truth is also that the text of the treaty was suggested by Finland."

...In the era of glasnost we are becoming tolerant of all opinions, although it is impossible not to see—and there are numerous examples of this—that in the thin fabric of relations between countries and peoples, one false word, one harmful assessment can postpone and "freeze" the most positive trends for a time. I do not think that the article by historian Yu. Kakhk can in any way influence our good relations with the Finns. Especially as the expected "propaganda outcry" has not been forthcoming. The Finnish scientists are right: "Kakhk clearly does not know the subject on which he endeavors to form an opinion. Consequently, his statements cannot even be an insult to Finland."

Swedish-Soviet Ship Collision Reported

LD2207195989 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1600 GMT 22 Jul 89

[Text] [Announcer] Since early this morning the Coast Guard has been hunting for a Swedish vessel that escaped after a collision with a Soviet fishing vessel in international waters off Oland.

[Correspondent (Lotta Saellberg)] It was at 0230 that the Soviet fishing vessel, Vasiliy Ostrovskiy, a ship that directs a number of smaller fishing vessels, sighted a Swedish vessel in international waters off southern Oland. The Soviet crew have told the Coast Guard that the vessel was at a safe distance and there was no risk of a collision, but the Swedish vessel suddenly swerved directly toward them and rammed the stem on the side of the fishing vessel. After the collion the Swedish vessel was still for almost 10 minutes. The vessel then set its course toward Sweden and disappeared.

The Soviet ship suffered two half-meter holes in the hull just above the water-line near the engine room. There was never any danger to the crew, as the weather was calm and still at the time of the accident. Welding temporarily repaired the holes this morning. The Coast Guard was alerted and flew over the area early this morning to look for the runaway ship. At approximately 0900 a small vessel was sighted off Utklipporna south of Karlskrona. It corresponded to the Soviet description and had clear damage in the stem. The vessel was called on the shipping radio, but did not answer. The Coast Guard sent a patrol boat from Ystad to the place, and at about 1500 it caught up with the Swedish cargo vessel and forced it to stop in the strait between Bornholm and southeastern Skaane.

Only two persons were found on board, and the captain denies having been involved in any accident. Therefore, the Coast Guard will take the vessel along to Ystad for further investigation and to see whether evidence can be obtained.

USSR Liner Damaged in Norwegian Harbor

LD2607132189 Stockholm International Service in Swedish 0930 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] A Soviet passenger vesel, the "Azerbaijian," is reported to have suffered extensive damage when the vessel arrived yesterday in severe weather conditions in the little northern Norwegian harbor town of Honningsvaag. Without waiting for the pilot, the "Azerbaijian" entered the harbor basin on its own, in spite of the heavy squalls, where the mate totally lost control of the vessel. The "Azerbaijian" rammed first a Norwegian [word indistinct] ship, "Finnmarken," which was alongside the quay and then (?collided) with [word indistinct] side first the quay in Honningsvaag.

According to the police in Nordkapp, the "Azerbaijian" suffered extensive damage, whereas the Norwegian vessel, "Finnmarken," escaped with slighter damage in the incident. However, no one was injured.

Environmentalists Protest Soviet Emissions

LD2507133989 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1030 GMT 25 Jul 89

[Text] Environmentalists in Norway protested today against sulphur emissions from a Soviet nickel mine in Nikel, near the Norwegian-Soviet border. About 50 members of an organization, called Nature and Youth, distributed leaflets. Emissions from the Soviet plant are double the amount of the total sulphur emissions in Norway.

Soviet Machine Building Delegation Visits Austria

AU2507192889 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 24 Jul 89 p 10

[Unattributed report: "A Total of 32 Joint Ventures With the USSR"]

[Text] Vienna—A Soviet machine building delegation that paid a visit to Austria held talks with the vice president of the Federal Economic Chamber, Ingrid Tichy-Schreder, on possibilities of cooperating with Austrian companies. The Soviets were mainly interested in the production of bicycles, the manufacture of small motors and household appliances, and of sanitary products.

Of the 500 Soviet joint ventures established with Western partners until the beginning of June, 32 have been signed with Austria. In addition to that, about 30 declarations of intent for joint ventures have been signed.

Latin America & Carribbean

Nicaraguan Election Campaign Previewed

PM2607154389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jul 89 Second Edition p 7

[Dispatch by PRAVDA special correspondent A. Zagorskiy and TASS correspondent I. Pshenichnikov: "Revolution Does Not Intend To Retreat"]

[Text] Managua, 20 Jul—The rainy season is at its height in Nicaragua now. Two or three times a day gusts of wind cover Managua in a light blanket of clouds in just minutes. But this does not usually last long and soon the sun again sets about drying the ground, the spiky crowns of the palm trees, and the tiled roofs of the houses.

Fluctuations in the barometer are also characteristic right now of the social atmosphere in the country. It has so happened that the 10th anniversary of the Sandinista revolution has coincided with the start of a new stage in the opposition from the political forces which will fight the general elections scheduled for 25 February next year.

The fact that throughout those long, hard 10 years the Sandinista government has held out under conditions of military-political pressure from the United States is undoubtedly of great importance. Nonetheless the prospects of the forthcoming election campaign and forecasts as to which way the scales will tip are today without any doubt attracting the interest of political observers no less than the analysis of the results of the activity of the Sandinista National Liberation Front [FSLN] over the years since the revolution.

The meeting of the presidents of the Central American countries in February this year in the small Salvadoran town of Costa del Sol was a determining one for the development of the political situation in Nicaragua. During the summit talks the region's heads of state adopted an extraordinarily important decision on disbanding and demobilizing the armed anti-Sandinista opposition groupings in Honduras. For its part Nicaragua undertook to implement a number of measures to democratize political life in the republic, to hold in February 1990 elections during which nearly 2 million citizens with the right to vote will elect the country's president, members of the National Assembly, and the local organs of power, and to create equal conditions for the political opposition to take part in the election process.

It is 5 months since the El Salvador meeting. But the armed formations of Contras have not only not been demobilized but are continuing to penetrate Nicaraguan territory and commit acts of terrorism against the Sandinista People's Army and the civilian population. As for Nicaragua's commitments, the Republic has fulfilled them entirely. The National Assembly—the country's parliament—has made radical changes to the law on elections and has adopted a law on the activity of the mass media which enables the opposition political parties to resort to the services of radio and television to conduct their election propaganda.

What are the Nicaraguan opposition members today? The following characteristic fact can serve as an answer to this question: Neither the FSLN nor even the representatives of the opposition circles themselves can accurately determine the number of parties in the opposition. According to recent official figures there are 21 of them in Nicaragua. But this figure is very approximate because many of them have been divided into factions which frequently, in turn, declare themselves to be independent political parties. It is not surprising therefore that many people in Managua not without irony call the opposition political organizations "midge parties." The members of the Sandinista leadership say quite justifiably in this connection that not one opposition party has a specific program and their ideological platform comes down mainly to the desire to overthrow the Sandinista government at any price.

The opposition members themselves realize the hopelessness of their election struggle if they are split. That is why quite recently 14 opposition parties formed a coalition called the "opposition Nicaraguan alliance" which intends to put forward a single candidate for the post of president. At the same time the alliance, like several other parties and coalitions, makes its participation in the elections conditional on holding dialogue with the FSLN, during which the opposition members hope to achieve substantial concessions in their favor from the FSLN. They are seeking in particular to annul for the duration of the election campaign the operation of the law on patriotic military service, to deprive the Sandinista people's police of the rights granted to it by the constitution for introducing public order, to change the composition of the Supreme Electoral Council, and to review a number of the clauses of the law on elections. In other words the alliance is seeking that the opposition be granted the right to uncontrolled activity. It is notable that accusations of organizing an "unequal" election process leveled by the national "opposition Nicaraguan alliance" against the FSLN are identical to the charges leveled against Managua from Washington.

Incidentally, U.S. interference in the election process in Nicaragua is by no means limited to verbal statements by high ranking representatives of the administration and "recommendations" as to what the Sandinistas and the political opposition should do. In late June this year the U.S. Congress House of Representatives decided to grant the CIA the right to secretly finance the opposition parties' election campaign. In the opinion of the Sandinista leadership these actions are gross interference in the republic's internal affairs.

Political & Social

Supreme Soviet 27 Jul Session Reported

Decisions Adopted on Baltic Autonomy

LD2707080589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0725 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jul (TASS)—The TASS parliamentary correspondent reports from the Kremlin:

By an overwhelming majority of votes, the Soviet parliament today adopted two decisions concerning the Baltic republics' transition to financial autonomy and economic independence.

The first of them approves the proposal of the Supreme Soviets of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia on the transition of these republics to financial autonomy from 1 January 1990. The USSR Government is instructed, together with the Councils of Ministers of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, to conduct preparatory work on the transition of these republics to financial autonomy, taking these proposals into account.

The document notes that the acts of legislation of the country which regulate economic relations operate on the territory of the Baltic republics so long as they do not obstruct their transition to financial autonomy. Of the 412 deputies who were present at the session, 15 voted against and 15 abstained.

Then a decision on proposals of the Supreme Soviets of Lithuania and Estonia on the transition of these republics to economic independence was adopted. It approves in the first reading the basic provisions of a draft bill on economic independence of Lithuania and Estonia. At the same time, the document orders committees and commissions of the Supreme Soviet and the USSR Government to prepare and submit to the USSR Supreme Soviet by 1 October of this year a draft bill completed after taking into account the remarks and proposals expressed by USSR peoples deputies. Thirty-five deputies voted against this decision and 23 abstained.

Commenting on the decisions, Anatoliy Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, stressed that the first decision gives the "green light" to the transition of the three Baltic republics to financial autonomy. The second document, in his view, is of an organizational-preparatory character. It corresponds to the provisional regulations on passing draft bills recently adopted by the Soviet parliament: first of all the Supreme Soviet approves the basic provisions of the draft bill and then it submits it to be finalized by the commissions.

The deputies then started examination of a number of procedural questions.

Armed Forces Reductions Confirmed

LD2707095289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0900 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Excerpts] At the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet: We switched to our correspondent of the All-Union radio in the Kremlin. At the microphone is Vladimir Korolev.

[Korolev] Deputies went on to confirm a number of decrees of the USSR Supreme Soviet touching upon various aspects of the life of our society. Although there has been preliminary examination of all these decrees—and there are 18 of them—by the deputies and in the commissions and committees of the USSR Supreme Soviet, today [27 July], however, certain amendments were made to many of the decrees while they were being confirmed. Among the already confirmed decrees, I would like to single out the decree on the curtailment of the Armed Forces and on defense expenditures in the course of 1989-1990. It determines that the numerical strength of the Soviet Army and Navy will be reduced by 500,000 men with a considerable reduction in our nation's defense expenditures, which will allow the released resources to be directed to the development of the national economy and to the provision of essential goods to the Soviet people.

Supreme Soviet 26 Jul Sessions Reported

Baltic Economic Autonomy Discussed

LD2607105489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Correspondent Lyudmila Semina report from USSR Supreme Soviet session in the Moscow Kremlin]

[Text] The session of the USSR Supreme Soviet is today [26 July] discussing one of the most serious issues. It is passionately and temperamentally discussing the draft law of the USSR on the economic independence of the Lithuanian and Estonian union republics.

Now, just after the interval, Deputy Filshin has just stood up and expressed gratitude, in the name of the Planning and Budget-Financial Commission of the Soviet of the Union, to the representatives of these republics who have submitted a proposal, as a legislative iniative, on the transition to financial autonomy from 1990. This gratitude is because this will move us forward and because this is the only alternative to the administrative-apparatus system of leading the national economy, a system that has brought our economy many misfortunes.

Thus, a very important issue is being discussed today. Vologzhin, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Economic Reform spoke, as did representatives from Lithuania, Latvia—this republic also submitted its own draft on economic independence, only slightly later—and Estonia. These were Deputies Toome, Kalnynch, and Prunskene. An hour ago we spoke about their speeches.

Then Academician Abalkin took the floor. In my opinion, he placed the emphasis precisely in the right places: We are facing the need to take major decisions. It is important to traverse this road in a competent and politically sagacious manner, without going to extremes but without standing still. The main thing is not to forget the general designs, the general goals of restructuring. In any case, however, this experiment will allow our economy to come up to a higher-quality standard.

The city of Moscow and Sverdlovsk Oblast are already thinking about regional financial autonomy by 1990, and the issue has been raised in the Kuzbass and in Kuybyshev Oblast. Academician Abalkin noted three important aspects of resolving this issue: It fits into the general process of democratization, it strengthens the real link between economic activity and people's standard of living, and it is connected with the objective process of the growth in national self-awareness. Well-known economists, current affairs writers, and lawyers are now taking the floor one after the other.

I have just been following the speeches by Burlatskiy and Bunich. Academician Bunich said that it is a pity that the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] was not the first to come out with such a draft. The thrust of the arguments comes down to the fact that we need experience, we need economic reform and political reform, and that it is time to stop engaging in cosmetic repair work.

Here I will end my report on the USSR Supreme Soviet session from the Kremlin.

Deputies Discuss Baltic Proposals

LD2607104289 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Commentator Aleksandr Ruvinskiy report from 26 July USSR Supreme Soviet session in Moscow Kremlin]

[Text] Today, once again a joint sitting of both chambers of the Supreme Soviet is taking place. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev is in the chair.

Deputies have begun their working day with a discussion of the proposals of the Supreme Soviets of Lithuania and Estonia, and later, as you probably know, Latvia joined them, too, on the expansion of the economic independence of these republics. Such proposals were introduced at the first Congress of People's Deputies and are now being examined already on the instructions of the congress.

A report in connection with this was made by Comrade Vologzhin, chairman of the Committee for Economic Reform of the USSR Supreme Soviet. He told of how the discussion in the committee is proceeding. Deputies posed many questions to him at today's sitting in connection with the proposed draft. A number of deputies also expressed the opinion that the draft should not be adopted until the fundamental laws on leasing, ownership, and other matters are adopted. Members of the Supreme Soviet agreed that it is essential to hear the authors of these drafts, to give them the opportunity to answer deputies' questions, and also hear the supplementary report of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Comrade Toome, chairman of the Republic's Council of Ministers, from Estonia, delivered a report. He substantiated the need to adopt the law proposed by the republic. This is what he said in particular:

[Begin Toome recording] As a politician, I cannot fail to note that the transition of republics to financial autonomy may turn one of the most serious minuses of the present stage of our development into a plus. I mean the nationality factor. Many difficult problems might arise because of this factor. But national feeling and pride may work wonders if the real prospect arises of turning our native republic into a modern, cultural, and flourishing country. Incidentally, of 250, around 250 deputies—Estonians, Russians, Ukrainians, and Belorussians—2 days ago all voted in favor of this draft whose enactment you are examining; only one abstained. This is so that you realize what support there is for this draft, for this matter in our republic. According to results of a public opinion poll, many Estonians, and not just Estonians, say they are prepared even to suffer in a real way, even to live worse off, if in the future there are possibilities really to implement the aims of the draft on financial autonomy, that is, of the draft of republic financial autonomy. [end recording]

On the instructions of the Latvian Council of Ministers, Deputy Kalnynsh also delivered a report. He noted that tomorrow in the republic the session of the Supreme Soviet will also discuss a similar law.

People's Deputy Prunskene, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Lithuania, told of how the new law is designed to further the republic's economic development.

Deputy Abalkin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, was given the floor for a supplementary report. He noted that the task must be resolved with the maximum integrity of the republic's economy while

preserving the integrity of the common national economy of the country. He dwelled also in detail on the questions arising in connection with the proposed draft law measures.

Comrade Maslyukov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, also spoke. He considers that the draft has not been sufficiently elaborated by the deputies and commissions and he also proposed a whole series of proposals on further work on it.

A break was then announced at the session. The sitting is currently resuming.

Further on Baltic Debates

LD2607165389 Moscow TASS in English 1623 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

Today's session of the Soviet parliament opened with a heated debate on economic autonomy for Baltic republics prompting Mikhail Gorbachev, who presided over the session, to compare it to the Novgorod Veche, an assembly of citizens in medieval Novgorod noted for especially keen discussions. The same clash of opinions continued in the second half of the day.

Vladimir Kurtashin, chairman of the standing commission on industry, energy, equipment and technology of the Council of the Union, proposed postponing the final passage of the law till the autumn session so that today's remarks of the deputies could be taken into account. He did not agree with some of the provisions of the draft stipulating, in particular, that some articles of USSR Constitution did not apply to Baltic republics. The republic's economic autonomy should be based on the principles of USSR Constitution. The country's main law cannot be redrafted to suit the interests of individual republics, he stressed.

Anatoliy Saunin, a deputy from Donetsk, urged to endorse the law at the current session because it was a revolutionary step in restructuring the country's economic mechanism.

According to Mikhail Bronstein, head of a chair at Tartu State university, the concept of economic autonomy for Baltic republics is based on a single nationwide market, where free partners interact. At present, he said, the union is the domain of ministries which destroy the integrity of the economic complex. The Estonian deputy warned the deputies against postponing the consideration of the draft bill till the autumn session, saying the mandate of faith, given to deputies by the peoples of Baltic republics, will pass on to "other forces".

Ivan Dyakov, first secretary of the Astrakhan regional party committee, disagreed with this viewpoint. He stressed that ultimatums were out of place when such serious issues were discussed. At the same time the deputy supported the proposals put forward by the Baltic republics explaining that time had come to revise and improve links between the centre and the republics. However, Dyakov insisted, some of the provisions of the draft law were at variance with the constitution in force. The situation can only be rectified by introducing amendments to the Constitution, while the Supreme Soviet is not entitled to do so. Dyakov proposed approving the proposals advanced by the Baltic republics and formulating them not as a law but as a resolution of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Vitaliy Vorotnikov, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, expressed doubts concerning arguments of some of the draft's supporters. According to him, principles in question are those relating to the regulation of the budget, finance, credit and money systems and pricing by republics on their own. He said that a free transfer to republican ownership of enterprises and other unities presently subordinated to the centre is very disputable. He voiced support for the draft on condition that it does not transgress the confines of legislation in force. "The proposals should be once again be examined with full attention to avoid interpretation ambiguities. [no closing quotation marks as received]

Two draft resolutions on the debated bill were submitted to the deputies for consideration. The deputies decided to take their time to study the drafts and adjourned voting till Thursday.

Maslyukov Cited

LD2607130489 Moscow TASS in English 1207 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

The Supreme Soviet focused today on Soviet Baltic republics' transition to cost-accounting.

The three republics' proposals to this effect had been made at the First Congress of People's Deputies.

The Supreme Soviet sitting was chaired by President Mikhail Gorbachev who called for an approach paving the way for experimentation, while in line with the existing national constitution, which clearly synthesises the interests of the entire federation.

Valentin Vologzhin, chairman of the joint committee on economic reform, presented an amended and agreed draft law on the economic indpendence of Lithuania and Estonia.

He said that the preparation of republican laws on guidance of the economy and social services and on local self-management could be conducive to rallying all formal and informal organisations and all working people in tackling vital issues.

Opening the debate, Estonian Prime Minister Indrek Toome said people in the Baltic republics are prepared to work to create truly modern economies and that the switchover to the pay-your-own-way system in the region will provide all the other constituent republics with the experience of using up-to-date methods of regulating market economies.

Toome added that each republic should develop its own system of economic regulation, drawing on the experience of others.

The changeover to profit and loss accounting, Toome said, can turn the ethnic factor, now one of the most serious problems in the country's development, into an advantage.

The ethnic factor can breed many daunting problems, but ethnic feeling and pride can also work wonders if there is real prospect to make one's republic into a modern, cultured and flourishing country, the Estonian premier said.

Latvian Deputy Arnys Kalnynsh suggested applying the bill under discussion to his own republic as well, explaining that Latvia's Supreme Soviet will discuss a law on its economic sovereignty when it begins its session on Thursday [27 July].

Following up predictions by some deputies that republics blazing the economic independence trail could win substantial economic advantages, Kalnyns offered examples demonstrating his republics keen interest in trade and mutually beneficial cooperation, including in the field of science and technology, with other parts of the Soviet Union.

The opinion of Kazimira Prunskene, deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Council of Ministers, is that the draft law has been elaborated with due regard for the interests of the union and union republics as a whole.

Representatives of Lithuania believe, she said, that the essence of the country's economic management should be in interrepublican equivalent exchanges, and not in centralised management and distribution.

The deputy disagreed with the opinion expressed by a number of speakers that this law may contradict the interest of other republics, in Central Asia, for example.

She believes that the difference in the living standards of the republics is a result of the imperfection of the country's economic management system.

Radical economic reform and a large-scale transition to the principles of cost accounting in all its forms are an integral part of the task of achieving a qualitatively new level of socialism, said Academician Leonid Abalkin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

This matter concerns not only two or three republics, he emphasised. Moscow, Sverdlovsk region (Urals), and Tatariya are preparing to change over to cost accounting from 1990. The question of this form of economic management has also been raised in the Kuznetsk coal basin and Kuibyshev region (Volga area).

Abalkin emphasised that the transition to cost accounting is irreversible. It is important that the issue be approached thoughtfully, in a politically sensible way, without extremes or procrastination, he added.

Yuriy Maslyukov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, cautioned against haste in making, as he put it, "hot-headed decisions" prompted by political considerations rather than the real economic situation.

Such decisions, in his view, may lead to unpredictable consequences for republics, for their relationships, and for the union as a whole.

The speaker said in particular that the question of combining the republic's and the union's property rights in the draft law under discussion required additional elaboration.

In refining the economic mechanism, he said, an important role should be assigned to both the republics and the union as a whole. It is very easy to step over the line which separates the conception of the union as a single whole from confederation.

The discussion of the draft law will continue in the afternoon.

Deputies Cited

LD2607151189

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1100 GMT on 26 July broadcasts a 13-minute Igor Zorin report on the opening of the 26 July joint session of the chambers of the Supreme Soviet to discuss the introduction of financial autonomy in the Baltic republics.

Zorin reports that Gorbachev opened the meeting. Deputy Vologzhin spoke in detail about the management principles of the economy, the social sphere, of local self-government in the union republics. The authors of the draft on republican financial autonomy were given the floor, including Toome, chairman of the Council of

Ministers of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic, and then Deputy Prunskene, deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Council of Ministers, spoke. Zorin gives a recording of part of her speech:

[Prunskene] The psychology of two bear cubs (?clutching onto) a piece of cheese lives very deeply within us: anything, as long as no one gets a little bit more, as long as each gets exactly the same. Yet, the fox continues to eat most of the cheese. The fox personifies bad management; the fox personifies misappropriation, and, to a certain degree, the swollen centralized apparatus. I believe that if we reject this psychology, we will move far ahead in the development of the community of peoples. Let us remember the sensible [word indistinct] say, of Bogdanov, who saw three stages in the emergence of systems: they are conjugation, I would say, the eclectic merging that took place, the—to a certian extent—chance merging of peoples within the framework of the union; then, naturally, differentiation takes place, finding out who participates in this system and how, the assimilation of specific local conditions; and then, only then, we arrive at the next and final stage, to a higher stage, to the emergence of the system, to what Bogdanov calls consolidation. We might call it integration. As we look furtively at Western Europe, I always think they have passed the stage of differentiation, while we now are obstinately keeping each other in the stage, the initial, primitive stage of conjugation. Thank you.

Zorin then mentions the speech by Latvian Deputy Kalnysh and the interest aroused by Academician Abalkin's speech, of which he gives a recorded portion.

[Abalkin] We must not forget the general ideas of the goal of our perestroyka. Four years ago, at the party's initiative, the country embarked on the path of the revolutionary renewal of society, setting the task of reaching a new and qualitatively higher standard of socialist state. A component of this work is the radical economic reform, precisely radical, including a fundamental renewal of the whole system of economic relations, basic relations, and relations of ownership. The center of the whole economic reform is the broad transfer everywhere to the principles of rational socialist management, to the principles of financial autonomy, in all its forms and manifestations, including republican financial autonomy, regional financial autonomy, and financial autonomy of the main link in the production chain.

And now, it is not only a matter of two or three republics. Moscow, Sverdlovsk Oblast, and Tatariya are preparing to transfer to principles of financial autonomy by the year 1990. The question has been raised of introducing regional financial autonomy in the Kuzbass and Kuybyshev Oblast, and the transfer to the principles of financial autonomy in regional structures is irreversible on the path toward the renewal of socialism. The foundation of financial autonomy is the financial autonomy of the local soviet, the economic basis of self-management.

The link between financial autonomy and ownership is not (?acceptable). In order to have full financial autonomy, one does not absolutely have to have ownership of the means of production. We have, of course, to solve the problem of ensuring the greatest possible integrity of the republican economy, while preserving the integrity of the unified national economic complex of the country. These are always contradictory problems, they require some kind of agreement and consensus and accord. But when solving one task, one should not forget about the second task. In any integral system, an organic system, the sum of local effects are not equal to the maximum integral effect.

Zorin continues his report and says that Maslyukov said that, according to the draft, the Baltic republics would receive 70 percent of all ownership, excluding all-union enterprises. After the break, debates began. Zorin gives a recorded portion of a speech by Deputy Burlatskiy:

[Burlatskiy] We are now beginning historic work. We are really beginning now to discuss the fundamental questions of the reconstruction of our economy and our society. For 4 years we have been conducting conversations and discussions about this, a significant part of which have been constructive and interesting, but now we are beginning to engage in this as real work. The matter has been presented by the Baltic states. What can we say? Have they left others behind, or are those others lagging behind? I agree with Leonid Ivanovich Abalkin on this matter. A building must be built from the foundation, not from the roof. We will not argue as to whether the cart is before the horse or vice versa. In this case, the horse is republican financial autonomy. It was the same in the twenties, comrades. We began to form our union by forming separate republics, and now, in the period of our revolution, we must begin from the bottom up and not count on accomplishing this revolution only from the top down.

Comrades, for 4 years we have failed to carry out reform. Why? Why is there still, to this day, no formulated conception of this reform? Why are there different views clashing with each other and yet no thought-out political strategy? For a simple reason. It is not a matter of individual people. The fact of the matter is that we have had the specific experience of the administrative-command system of the Stalin-Brezhnev system. The political economy of socialism could not be born on the basis of this experience. It is beginning to be born now. We need experience. We need experience, and this is the start of the formation of this experience, which is functioning in favor not only of the Baltic states, but in favor of all republics, and in favor of the whole federation. We need experiments. The fact that the Baltic states have taken on the risk, the risk of the formation of such an experiment, merits all-round support. We must hope that now this will be followed not only by those oblasts which were mentioned already in Abalkin's remarks, but that the Ukraine will follow suit, Belorussia will follow, Georgia will follow, and other republics will follow, too.

Then we will begin, we will begin the construction of this new building, a new federation, based on new economic and political principles which are still not yet fully clear to us, because we have no experience. The draft should stipulate that independence is granted not only to republics, granted to families, granted to every worker, because this is where the root of the matter lies.

Zorin notes that the majority of deputies were in favor of republican financial autonomy though he mentions the objections to it voiced by Deputies Bocherov and Yarin. Deputy Alekseyev, chairman of the Committee on Issues of Legislation, Legality, and Law and Order, pointed out that the proposed draft law raises many questions, because it contradicts the present constitution of the USSR.

Lukyanov Gives Speech

LD2607231689 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1917 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Remarks by Anatoliy Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, from recorded relay of 26 July evening session of USSR Supreme Soviet in Kremlin—recorded]

[Excerpts] I want to say this to you. Today [26 July], at our evening session alone, 12 deputies have spoken. They represent nine of our republics. Representatives of nine republics have spoken. Some 26 more deputies put their names down. Today we consulted in great detail, Mikhail Sergeyevich consulted with deputies from the Baltic area. I would like to now propose to you two drafts, to read them, one could continue the speeches on this for another 2 days. If you will permit me, I will read these two drafts to you and then we will decide. They emanate from consultations we had with comrades from the Baltic area and from the proposal that the commission on economic reform and the committee on legislation tabled today. I propose the following two drafts for your consideration.

First draft—I ask you to forgive me that it is being given orally, because we only agreed on these two drafts today.

On the proposals of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR], of the Latvian SSR, and the Estonian SSR on the transfer of these republics to financial autonomy. The decision of the USSR Supreme Soviet: The Supreme Soviet of the USSR decides:

1. To approve the proposal of the Supreme Soviets of the Lithuanian SSR, the Latvian SSR, and the Estonian SSR on the transfer of the republics to financial autonomy from 1 January 1990.

2. To commission the USSR Council of Ministers, together with the Councils of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, the Latvian SSR, and the Estonian SSR, to carry our the preparatory work for the transfer of these repubics to financial autonomy, taking into account their proposals and the draft law submitted by the government on the general principles for the management of the economy and the social sphere in the union repubics.

3. To ensure that the legislative acts of the USSR, which regulate economic relations, operate on the territory of the aforementioned union republics to the extent that they do not obstruct their transfer to financial autonomy.

This is the first decision. The second decision. [interjections from deputies in the chamber] No. No. Just listen, comrades, to the whole thing. You have to give your name. Yesterday I did not want to interfere, as it were, in the course of the discussion. All the same let us master parliamentary culture thoroughly. Listen to both proposals, hear them out. After that we will put them to a vote. So, I was slightly mistaken: The first proposal is called simply: On the transfer of the Lithuanian SSR, the Latvian SSR, and the Estonian SSR to financial autonomy.

The second decision is named in a different way—the decision of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the proposals of the Supreme Soviets of the Lithuanian SSR, the Latvian SSR, and the Estonian SSR on the transfer of those republics to economic independence. Having examined the draft law which was entered according to the legislative initiative of the Supreme Soviets of the Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonians SSR's, the draft law on the transfer of these republics to economic independence, the USSR Supreme Soviet decides: First, to approve, at the first reading, the main provisions of the draft USSR law on economic independence for the Lithuanian SSR, Latvian SSR, and the Estonian SSR, insofar as they do not contradict the USSR Constitution; second, to instruct a commission, composed of Primakov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union; Maslyukov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Abalkin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Vologzhin, chairman of the Committee for Economic Reform; Alekseyev, chairman of the Committee on Legislation, Legality, Law and Order; to prepare together with representatives of other committees and commissions of the chambers and also with representatives of the deputy groups from the Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonian SSRs, and to present to the USSR Supreme Soviet a draft law which has been finalized, with account for the remarks and proposals expressed about it by the USSR people's deputies.

Thus, both proposals are taken into consideration. First, an opportunity is given to the republics to get down to work from 1 January for transfer of the republics to financial autonomy. This is the green light about which most of the comrades have spoken. Second, an opportunity is given to examine this draft law which has been introduced in detail, thoroughly, with the participation of both representatives of the chambers, representatives

of the committees and of our government, and the republics themselves. They will present that draft law to us in the second reading. Comrades, are these two proposals basically acceptable? [deputies shout out from the hall]. Then I will read out the first proposal again so as to vote on it. Shall I read it?

[Lukyanov] I would like to say the following thing about this. Yevgeniy Pavlovich is, in effect, suggesting not to even consider this first reading and to hand everything over once again to the commissions, although we have already conducted in practical terms the first reading with the participation of a large number of deputies. Overall, almost 30 deputies spoke. We are, in effect, establishing that commission as a conciliation commission out of representatives of all the commissions and committees who participated. That means that we are observing the standard which was proposed. But we must proceed from a precise consideration of both the political and other situation in the republics.

Sessions are taking place in a number of republics. They want to hear the views of the Supreme Soviet, and I think that today there wasn't a single speaker who failed to say that we support the idea of transferring these republics to financial autonomy from 1 January 1990. There were no such speeches. Thus, there is a point for not immediately adopting either of the decisions. We could pass one at the first reading, approve it, and hand it over. There is a political expediency in adopting a decision that will give the green light to work—constructive work—in the republics without trying them here. On the other hand, it could be submitted for a second reading, for preparations for a second reading, as provided for under our rules. We shall always be coming up against this problem, comrades—strictness in observance of the rules. As a lawyer, I, for instance, do not regard this as a major departure from the rules agreed and assumed by the Supreme Soviet. If anyone categorically objects to such a procedure, let him speak. Two words, then, Comrade [name indistinct]. We are proposing a decision that is politically speaking a fairly tried and tested one, which has been agreed in the republics.

[Lukyanov] Thank you. I want to remind you, comrade deputies, of the congress' instructions. Comrade Prunskene also referred to this here. Well, to who did the congress give the instruction? To a commission? No. It instructed the USSR Supreme Soviet, the Committee for Economic Reform on Economic Matters, and the relevant commissions of the chambers—this means the Supreme Soviet, first and foremost—to examine the proposals of the republics, and not a draft law, with regard to questions of expanding their economic independence, proposals introduced under legislative initiative. After that, there is the proposal of the Supreme Soviets of the Lithuanian and Estonian SSRs on the transition of those republics to financial autonomy from 1990. That is for the information of Comrade Sobchak. I highly appreciate his experience as a major specialist in civil law and an expert on economic law, but the republics have placed in their drafts a concept which is, Comrade Sobchak, much broader. This should not be confused, and it is necessary to proceed from the precise concepts of the congress.

Therefore, I have the following proposal: Because these questions have emerged, and it is best—as Comrade Viltsans and Comrade Ryzhkov tell us, to vote according to the text—I will ask the chairman of the Soviet of the Union to prepare today, right now, these texts, together with the comrades from the union republics, and with the comrades from the commissions and from the committees - -and on the basis of what I have said—and to present them to us tomorow for voting. But let us agree about one principle.

First, I know that many deputies from the Baltic republics, despite all the emotions which they have displayed today, want to travel to the session. They want to be armed with a definite decision from the Supreme Soviet. Therefore, it was proposed today that one adopt this decision. The decision of support for their decision, to pass over to financial autonomy from January 1990 is, in my opinion, unanimous. And they must know about this. As for all other variants which have been proposed, let us get prepared and tomorrow morning we will vote on it. Oh no! Let us have it the way that we agreed. Have we agreed? Thank you. Now a few remarks and we will be able to disperse. Yes, I think, with respect to what Deputy Fedorov said about the convocation of an extraordinary congress; Well, you understand that we have a possibility, without touching upon the constitution, to untie the hands of those republics.

I conclude our sitting with an announcement about the sitting of the committees. The Committee on People's Health Care sits today at 1910 in Room 34 at the Hotel Moskva in Building B. The USSR Supreme Soviet's Committee on Issues of the Work of the Soviets of People's Deputies, Development of Government and Self-Government will take place on Friday, 28 July at 1000 in Room 238 at 4 Kalinin Prospekt. The Commission on Transport, Communications, and Information Technology will take place after the sitting, if I understand correctly, in Room 34 in the Hotel Moskva. The Commission for preparing a draft law on constitutional supervision in the USSR will take place on 28 July 1989 at 1500 in the building of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Building V, in Room 428. Finally, the Committee of Veterans and Invalids sits on 28 July 1989 at 1000 at 4 Ulitsa Kalinina. Do you have any questions for me, comrades? No! The sitting is declared closed.

Tomorrow the beginning of the sitting is at 1000 in the morning. [0600 GMT]

Vorotnikov Gives Speech

LD2607231889 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1833 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Remarks by Vitaliy Vorotnikov, chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium, from recorded relay of 26 July evening session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin—recorded]

[Text] I think, comrades, that we all agree that one ought, so to speak, to welcome the fact that in Estonia and Lithuania, and subsequently in Latvia, proposals have been drawn up which are aimed—as the leaders of the republics and their representatives say—both at stabilizing the political situation in these republics, strengthening their economic potential, and ensuring the republics' development from the viewpoint of resolving social and other problems that face them. I refer to increasing the standard of living and so on. The idea itself, the very way the matter had been put, and the lengthy and painstaking work done by economists, academics, and experts of these republics, merits all possible support, respect, and attention. It just seems to me that we have not had the opportunity to acquaint ourselves with these drafts more fully.

For a start, the commissions, too, made a whole series of changes and remarks, which we received only today and which we could not reflect on properly. Second, it is difficult, judging by the wording in the original versions of the documents, to get a detailed idea, so to speak, of the essence of these matters and how they are understood by those who compiled them.

The fact that these republics are prepared voluntarily to take upon themselves the testing and implementation of measures to bring about a radical economic reform that is an intergral part of the financial autonomy—I quote—of the republics, measures which have been drawn up by union bodies and other republics, this, so to speak, is all well and good. But looking deeper into the text of the draft that has been submitted to us, we find ourselves automatically working out how these provisions would apply to us. Although comrade Bunich here dropped a reproach that nothing is being done in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] and that it is high time to table such proposals for the RSFSR, I must say that this work is already being carried out in our republic. We have designated regions—Sverdlovsk Oblast, the Tatar Republic, and Moscow—which are being prepared for transfer to regional financial autonomy. But I think comrade Bunich and other experts will realize how complex this process is for the RSFSR, if for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania it is having such a painful birth, so to speak.

But is seems to me that the document submitted to us does not look convincing, nevertheless, on all points. What thoughts would I like to voice?

The authors of the draft proceed from the intergrity of the Soviet economy and the fact that the national economy of each republic can develop only in a harmonious relationship with it.

But first, by creating preferential conditions in economic life for two republics, we are haphazardly leaving aside a few fundamental laws whose drafts must be examianed at the session, and which have already cropped up here. Some comrades back them, others criticize them, believing that they are not very suitable. But whether we want it or not, we must adopt the general principles for the management of the economic and social sphere of the union republics. We must work and adopt laws on local self-management and the local economy, and they must be made to correspond with the drafts which are now being submitted by the Baltic republics.

Further, the comrades who spoke here say that our path, that it so say, the path in particular of Estonia, is mutually advantageous market relations with the republics. We support these propositions. But at the same time, it is written down in this draft that the USSR State Planning Committee must, acting in a centralized way, without fail furnish this republic with certain kinds of output, supplies in line with the demands, and plans which it is drawing up, that is to say, already an obvious deviation from market relations, and from direct ties with the republics toward direct planning principles, which are being criticized by representatives of this republic.

Further, in my view the principles in accordance with which it is proposed to implement the regulation of the budgetary-financial credit and money system, are not quite clear.

Briefly, what does this phrase mean? What sort of system will this be? What system of regulation? If it is tied up with those articles we read today in PRAVDA then I, for example, cannot agree with this. However much I would like to support the comrade who spoke here—that would be very good—everyone would have their own system, you understand, and depending on the level of the economy we would set up exchange operations and so on. What will happen then in our country? There are no bases for the proposals on handing over—free of charge, as is stated in the draft—to the jurisdiction of the peoples of the republics, of union enterprises and economic organizations with all fixed and working capital. I understand, and the representative from Lithuania spoke about this, how difficult it is to determine the extent of the participation and the dependence of the republics, who owes whom more, who should be paid more, and from whom is it necessary to levy, you understand, some dues for the state budget: This is difficult but it is necessary to do this if we want to create equal conditions, equivalent exchanges, and so on. Our learned economists probably need to work on this a little. But what bases are there for simply handing over, free of charge, everything which is situated on the territory of

the republic? After all, the Russian Federation, let us suppose, could proclaim the Baykal-Amur Railway [BAM] or the Magnitogorsk Metallurgical Works its property with equal success. [applause]

I believe that this is not in keeping with the principles of financial autonomy or the principles of economic and social justice. It is unnecessary to show that the transition of the union republics to the principles of self-government and self-financing is not possible without taking into account the essential differences in their economic conditions, which was spoken about here by the same comrade. This has special significance for the Russian Federation. Its economy specializes in the development of industries from group A; and let us add to this that some two-thirds of the territory of Russia is situated in the northern zone and in conditions equating to it. All of this predetermines more capital and more labor- intensive production that in other union republics, and reduces the effectiveness of the republic's economy. This is because profitability of say the fuel and power complex in our country is two times, three times lower than average, while in the Kuzbass, for instance, this is all the more true. After all, there is a reason the Kuzbass miners are now posing the question of raising the cost of the coal they are producing and of selling it not at R18 per tonne, but at R24 so that they could make ends meet and have a profit and use it for the social development of their enterprises.

I think that improving the prices policy is, perhaps, especially important. Without this—we have talked about this already more than once—if we do not improve the prices policy, price formation, it will be difficult for us to establish equivalent relations. For this reason—I am concluding—we need, nevertheless, to study carefully again and again the common questions regarding the draft being discussed.

On the whole I believe that it deserves support, but only within a framework whereby it does not go beyond existing law. For this reason the proposal being voiced here to approach this draft positively in principle, to perfect it, to adopt an appropriate decision on this matter and to start producing practical material is necessary for us, for every one—this is a good thing—but one must, nevertheless tie it up so that it corresponds both with legal norms and with the principles enshrined in the document but which are only implied and which make it possible to interpret their content very freely. Thank you!

Estonia's Toome Address Reported

LD2607224589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1450 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Remarks by Indrek Toome, chairman of the Estonian Council of Ministers, from the recorded relay of the 26 July morning session of the Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin]

[Text] Esteemed Mr Chairman, esteemed deputies. The transfer of the Estonian and Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republics [SSR] to financial autonomy and economic autonomy is for the people of these republics not just one step in improving the economic mechanism, it is for the USSR Supreme Soviet a serious touchstone for democratizing its attitude toward the sovereign union republics. The contents of this draft, both for us and for you are broader and deeper. The people of the republics, oblasts, and krays have begun to feel that there is a real chance in the course of perestroyka to become the masters, the subject of organizing life in their country. The Estonian and Lithuanian people have expressed their clear will in the laws adopted in Estonia and Lithuania. Now it is the turn of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Precisely with the idea that this will determine what the relations of financially autonomous republics with other republics and with the center will become, we clearly declared in our laws that our path is the path of economic openness and mutually advantageous market relations with other union republics and regions. Those people who have seriously and deeply acquainted themselves with our draft laws and our concept of financial autonomy will have clearly understood that, I think.

Therefore, legislatively setting down relations is of primary importance for us. Our people are ready to begin to restructure their economy, to begin to create a really modern economy. Someone should be first and try to be the pioneer on this path. Of course, this should have begun long ago. Unfortunately, it must be admitted that at the 19th party conference and at some other all-union forums for the first time and with great difficulty the assimilation of the idea of republican financial economy was achieved. Although at the present stage there are few people who doubt the applicability in principle of such ideas, we are under serious pressure, and I stress that we are under pressure, from the time factor. If now in the process of adopting decisions at the all-union level delays and lack of understanding are sown then this—I think and I am sure of this—we will not be able to explain this to our people. As you know, we have been dealing with this matter for 2 years, 2 years. The people assess this unambiguously as a sign that they do not understand us, that in the USSR there is no possibility to arrange relations between the republics and the center in a new way. This conclusion could lead to very serious consequences.

I am an engineer by education. I know how much time and concern it takes to get a new technical system running and ensure its interface with the elements of the surrounding environment. It is understood that a socio-economic system is even more complicated than a technical system. It will take at least 5 or 6 months to set up a system of republican financial autonomy for introduction. Therefore, we calculated that an all-union law on transferring Estonia onto financial autonomy would be adopted at the past congress of peoples deputies. Unfortunately, this did not happen.

Please understand, dear deputies, colleagues, if we really want our republics to go over to financial autonomy beginning 1 January—and I am sure that we want this and you want this—then we really have only just enough time. The adoption of the appropriate law, all-union law at the present session of the USSR Supreme Soviet is the only version that will be satisfactory.

By the way, a session of the republican Supreme Soviet took place 2 days ago. It discussed this draft law which has now been presented to you and was proposed by the economic reform committee and some commissions. The Supreme Soviet—which previously adopted its own draft law and in the process of legislative initiative proposed it to the Congress of Peoples Deputies—gave up its own draft and adopted this decision: to approve the decision of the Committee on Issues of Economic Reform of the USSR Supreme Soviet of 14 July on the draft USSR law on the economic autonomy of the Lithuanian SSR and Estonian SSR. One more point: To propose to the USSR Supreme Soviet to adopt the USSR law on the economic autonomy of the Lithuanian SSR and the Estonian SSR at the present session of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Here, one Supreme Soviet appealed to another Supreme Soviet. Understand this as well.

We think that the transfer of Estonia and Lithuania to financial autonomy will give other republics good examples on the use of modern methods for the regulation and development of the economy, that is regulation precisely of a market economy and regulation precisely by indirect methods, by tax and credit policy, and so on. We are sure that an attempt to create a unified system of indirect regulation of the economy for the whole of the USSR is not a realistic task at present. The variations are too great between the various union republics and regions, their problems, potential, and so on.

Each republic should elaborate for itself its own unique system for economic regulation, using for this, of course, the experience of others, but doing so creatively and adapting individual elements of the economic mechanism for its own conditions and tasks.

A few words about the USSR draft law on the general principles of managing the economic and social sphere of union republics which was presented to the Supreme Soviet on 22 July of this year—4 days ago. I saw it for the first time yesterday and acquainted myself with it. It rather seriously differs in principle from the draft law which we proposed and which is proposed by the Committee for Economic Reform for adoption. Therefore, the delays are unacceptable to us in adopting the abovementioned draft law concerning the autonomy, the economic autonomy, of the Lithuanian SSR and the Estonian SSR.

As a politician, I cannot fail to note that the transition of republics to financial autonomy may turn into a plus one of the most serious minuses of the present stage of our development. I mean the national factor. Many difficult problems might arise because of this factor. But national feeling and pride may work wonders if the real prospect arises of turning ones native republic into a modern, cultural, and flourishing country. Incidentally, out of 250, around 250 deputies—Estonians, Russians, Ukrainians, and Belorussians—2 days ago, all voted in favor of this draft decision which you are examining. Only one abstained. This is so that you realize what support there is for this draft, for this matter in our republic. According to results of public opinion polls, many Estonians, and not just Estonians, say they are prepared even to suffer in a real way, even to live worse if in the future possibilities really open up to implement the aims of the draft on financial autonomy, that is, of the draft on republican financial autonomy.

And here is another very important result from the public opinion polls: Never before have the opinions of the Russian-speaking population of Estonia on this question been so close to those of Estonians as they are now on this question. In the struggle for real opportunities to improve their lives and become the masters of their fate, the various nationalities will become allies.

However, I must admit that just as before, some people here in Moscow and back at home are trying in every way to discredit the idea of republican financial autonomy and to this end think up various accusations. They have no concern for the fact that this idea and the measures to implement it are supported at party level in the country and they have no concern for the fact that not only Estonians but also other peoples living in Estonia are rallying increasingly strongly around this idea.

I consider it important to stress the necessity for the integrity of the republic's economic complex in the conditions of financial autonomy. Because of this principle, we cannot consider satisfactory some drafts for improving the economic mechanism which proposed handing over to republican control only such sectors as agriculture, light industry, the consumer services sector, and the like. By the way, the same thing is now written in this draft law which has just been distributed to you.

As far as what are known as strategic sectors such as machinebuilding and others is concerned, it is proposed to leave them under all-union subordination and as all-union property. If this version were to be implemented then at republican level it would be possible to deal only with the functioning of the economy and not its development. Such an approach is clearly ineffective.

Another important question is the inclusion into the republican economic complex of technical infrastructure sectors—power, communications, rail transportation, and others. We do not agree with the opinion that these

sectors because of their specific characteristics should be included in all-union property. In our opinion two issues are being confused here. One issue is the organizational and technical unity of the rail transportation and other such systems. Of course, for the coordination and harmonious work of these systems such unity is essential. But this does not lead on to the conclusions favoring all-union property and all-union subordination. Let us cite an example. In the Nordic countries power stations belong to various owners but this in no way hampers the operation of a unified system of distributing and selling power, the Nordel system.

Without the possibility of influencing the infrastructure sectors, one cannot speak seriously about the intergrated development of the region. There are no grounds to suppose that if they belonged to the republic this would worsen the work of these links of the infrastructure. On the contrary, it was precisely the transfer of these sectors in the past to all-union subordination where the owner is far away—and that means that there is no real owner—was one of the reasons for the fact that the power stations and railroads now in the republic are in a very amortized and sorry state.

Finally, I would like to stress that in our republic, in Estonia, the transfer to financial autonomy—and precisely on the basis of the concept which we elaborated and which is now supported by the committee for economic reform and precisely according to the timetable which we adopted, that means starting from 1 January, 1990—is for the people something which has already been decided. And we have absolutely no doubt and we hope that the Supreme Soviet will on the whole support us. Because we have chosen the difficult path of a pioneer which does not promise us easy glory and an easy life. But this is the path we have chosen for ourselves and we must travel along it.

We have some small criticisms about the formulations which Comrade Vologzhin presented but perhaps we shall speak about this a bit later.

My time is up? Yes, I am just finishing. If the chairman agrees, the proposal has been expressed that the economists should give very specific replies to questions. I propose that our economist, Academician Mikhail Lazarevich Bropnshteyn, reply to you on many questions as an economist.

Committee Deputy Chairman Interviewed

LD2607122189

[Editorial report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1030 GMT on 26 July broadcasts a report by Andrey Nikiforov from the Kremlin, in which he interviews Pavel Grigoriyevich Bunich, deputy chairman of the committee on economic reform issues, about the significance of today's discussion of economic independence for Estonia and Lithuania:

[Nikiforov] Some deputies have expressed their apprehension about this law leading to a certain degree of isolation—if one can call it that, as it were—of the Baltic republics from the country, if it is adopted. What do you think about that?

[Bunich] The point is that the economic ties which have been formed through history between all the republics on the one hand and between the Baltic republics on the other are based on economic reasons. So even if we imagine the most remote option, the separation of these republics from the Soviet Union, then their interest in the Soviet Union and the interest of the Soviet Union in what they produce, I think would change little, basically. It is not by mere luck indeed that Finland occupies first place in the foreign trade of the Soviet Union with all capitalist countries. But that is not what we are talking about. So, all the more so, this does not mean that they will start looking for a place for themselves outside our country."

Bunich then goes on to say that other parts of the Soviet Union will have to move more quickly toward regional financial autonomy themselves.

Supreme Soviet 25 Jul Sessions Reported

Decree on Holidays Discussed

LD2507183589

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1412 GMT on 25 July broadcasts a recording of the joint morning session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet held in the Kremlin.

At 1412 Primokov opens the session announcing the number of deputies present. Lukvanov is on the platform with Nishanov and an unidentified woman.

At 1413 Deputy Alekseyev, chairman of the legislation commission, speaks about the examination by commissions and committees of decrees of the Presidium announced yesterday by Lukyanov. He proposes accepting the decrees, first because not doing so would be destablizing, as they were already in force, and many of them will form the basis for new laws. Amendments should therefore only be made in case of dire necessity. He lists seven that should be accepted in their entirety. Its list seven other decrees recommended for further study. He recommends corrections for the other group of four decrees. He says the Supreme Soviet must support cooperative movements but curb parasitic cooperatives. He gives general principles for establishing income tax rates, which need to be discussed.

At 1435 Primakov invites questions. Questions from the floor discuss legislation on cooperatives. Primakov insists that they should discuss the decrees. It is agreed that they will discuss the four decrees in detail.

At 1442 Deputy Golyakov proposes amendments to the decree on individual labor activity and taxation. Primakov interrupts him, attempting to pin him down to one particular topic.

At 1445 Deputy Bichkauskas proposes amendments to two decrees.

At 1446 an unnamed deputy tries to propose amendments, but Primakov says that he is talking to the wrong decree. The deputy continues speaking about the popular hatred of cooperatives for profiteering and speculation.

At 1450 another unnamed deputy proposes amendments to the decree, other unnamed deputies speak about the detail of the decree.

At 1456 Primakov calls for a vote on the decree on taxing cooperations. An unnamed and largely unheard man tries to interrupt. The vote is in favor. Then the decree on individual labor patents is voted on. The vote is in favor.

At 1502 an unnamed woman speaks proposing amendments to the decree on holidays. Deputy Shcherbak makes a proposal. Other unnamed deputies engage in a heated debate on the subject of vocational holidays, for and against, including an impassioned speech against the system of vocational holidays.

At 1515 Primakov suggests sending the decree back to committee. This is not agreed on.

At 1516 Primakov then calls for a vote. Before the vote can be fully taken, Vorontnikov speaks. He says, "Comrades, I for one understood the speech by Comrade Alekseyev in the following way: that the matter of these holidays requires additional elaboration both by the government. [noisy reaction in hall] There you are. That is what I mean. Before we adopt a decision either to abolish, or, you understand, to agree, we must, all the same, listen to people as well and give the committee the opportunity to speak with the republics, with the oblasts, and with industries. [continued noise in hall] At the moment, I fully support Comrade Primakov's suggestion that examination of of this matter be dropped now, and when it is prepared and when people's views are known, then it can be adopted, and perhaps, all these holidays could be abolished."

An unnamed deputy then urges further discussion among the workers before deciding. Primakov again suggests returning the decree to committee. The vote goes in favor of the proposal.

At 1520 an unnamed deputy speaks about procedure, complaining that committee views are not being reflected in commission Chairman Alekseyev's reports.

At 1523 Primakov moves to discussion of the next decree.

At 1524 Alekseyev comes back to the rostrum to answer the accusations against him. He gives an explanation fo the legalities of procedure.

At 1528 Primakov takes voting on the other decrees. They are passed with some votes against and some abstentions.

At 1530 Alekseyev proposes other corrections. He raises the issue of the forcible incorporation of the Baltic states into the USSR in 1941 as a result of the Hitler-Stalin agreement. He appeals to people not to forget those deported and still not rehabilitated.

At 1536 Alekseyev returns to the rostrum to comment on Bichkauskas's proposed amendments.

At 1539 an unnamed deputy appeals for a more serious attitude to the proposed amendments.

At 1541 an unnamed deputy speaks about justice for the victims.

At 1543 an unnamed deputy appeals for financial compensation for the repression victims.

At 1544 a Magadan deputy proposes an amendment forcing the KGB to reveal the site of victims graves.

At 1545 a break is announced.

Drunk Driving Laws Viewed

LD2507210789

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1545 GMT on 25 July carries a recording of the second joint session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet held in the Kremlin.

Yevgeniy Primakov reopens the session. An unidentified deputy speaks about relatives of his who he says were victims of Stalin. The deputy calls for more organs of justice to deal with the rehabilitation of victims.

Deputy Goarik Yenokyan of Armenia speaks about the sufferings of the Armenians under Stalin and the numbers exiled to Siberia. She complains that some children remain unrehabilitated and calls for that to be rectified. Another deputy whose name is indistinct speaks about considerations of the legal status for the children of victims.

At 1552 GMT Deputy Kalashnikov speaks of the Stalin victims in his family. He proposes changes to the decree. He speaks bitterly about the persecutions. A speaker whose name is indistinct calls for action against those who persecuted the Stalin victims. He says that there were 40 million victims. An unidentified deputy says the decree should not be approved.

At 1558 GMT Primakov reads out various proposals from deputies concerning those who have suffered as a result of the repressions. There is a general discussion on how to proceed. An unidentified deputy calls for the decree to be approved and goes on to praise the decree.

At 1605 GMT Deputy Anatoliy Sobchak from Leningrad asks how long the butchers responsible for the repressions will remain in the Kremlin wall? Another deputy says there is a need for a proper procedure for examining these decrees. He says this decree must be approved. He calls for preparation of a draft law to resolve all such matters. This will include the benefits enjoyed by those responsible for the crimes, including previous members of the leadership and those who signed death warrants for Soviet people.

At 1609 GMT Deputy Egidyus Bichkauskas from Lithuania takes the rostrum: No one has the right to call people criminals without proof and due process of law. We must also analyze the crimes which occurred in the period of stagnation.

A deputy from Karelia makes a detailed point on embodying two former points.

At 1611 GMT Primakov goes on to take the vote: Who is for the decree? The Soviet of nationalities passes the motion with two absentions. Further arguments follow on the text of the decree. The text of one of the provisions is read out for clarification. The Soviet of the Union approves with four against and five absentions. The decree is approved. Primakov says the next matter on the agenda is the decree on responsibility for violating road traffic laws.

At 1617 GMT an unidentified deputy begins to speak on the decree another deputy talks about the ecological effects of washing vehicles in small rivers.

A deputy says this decree looks to be a decree aimed against drinking. He reads out proposed additions to the decree on fines for drunk driving. A member of the Committee on People's Health Care agrees that penalties have to be toughened for drunk driving. He agrees that penalties are too light for driving unfit vehicles, but he opposes on the spot fines.

At 1625 GMT Deputy Leonid Sukhov from the Ukraine says the fines for individual offenses must be clarified. He outlines his own amendments for drunk driving fines.

Report Presented on Train Disaster

LD2607141789

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1545 GMT on 25 July broadcasts a recording of the second joint session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet held in the Kremlin. During the session, V.Kh. Doguzhiyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, presented a report on the rail accident in the Bashkirian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic. The investigation is under way and is due to be completed in November.

Doguzhiyev gave details of the accident. Gas leaking from a pipeline exploded as two trains passed. The official said that the exact number of people on the trains is not absolutely clear, but the number 1,284 is provisionally specified, including 84 railway staff. A total of 645 died including 213 in the hospital. There were 181 children among the dead; 46 died in the hospital. Less than 30 victims remain unidentified. Doguzhiyev said the explosion was caused by a leak of a broad fraction of light hydrocarbons from West Siberia-Urals, Volga region products pipeline. The site of the leak was 900 meters from the railway. The leak was in the body of the pipeline, not at a welded join. Doguzhiyev named the construction organization and the acceptance commission head. A poor quality of workmanship has been found on the pipeline. Disinterested specialists are carrying out an examination.

"This section of the product pipeline was operated by Cherkassy area oil pipeline administration which is subordinate to the administration of the Novosibirsk trunk oil pipelines. During the investigation, facts have been established of the poor condition of the product pipeline: scores and scratches in the pipe, lack of insulation or damaged insulation on individual sections. Scores and scratches have also been discovered directly at the point where the pipe was destroyed and through which there was a product leakage."

Both trains were late but this often happens. Trains pass each other at this point 34 times a day.

After the accident, the pipeline was taken out of use and has remained so ever since. Investigations revealed 620 defective welds out of the total 1,200 on this section. A new string is being built on this section now; 41 km of the total 78 km has been built. Work will be completed in September. On the section from Nizhnevartovsk gas refinery to the Yuzhnyy Balyk pumping station a new route is to be used for the products, using existing oil and gas pipelines, avoiding populated areas; 157 km of the 250 km of these oil and gas pipelines will be reconstructed at the same time. The section from Tobolsk gas refinery to Minnibayevo works has been declared unfit for use because all 37 river crossings are in need of repair. This work will be done by a West German firm and will be completed by the end of this year. When repairs are completed, the pipeline will be used not as a product pipeline for liquefied gas but as an oil pipeline.

Doguzhiyev commented on the procedural organization of the investigation and of compensation for the victims. The progress of the investigation will be reported in the press about twice a month.

"Citizens who have suffered as a result of the disaster are to be paid a one-shot benefit of R200 per person and families who have lost their breadwinner are to be paid a benefit of R2,000. In addition, a benefit of R500 is being paid for expenses related to the funeral of each of those who died. It is envisaged that these benefits will be paid from the reserve fund of the USSR Council of Ministers irrespective of the sums paid by the state insurance organs for voluntary and obligatory insurance. It has been established that pensions in the case of the loss of a breadwinner as a consequence of the disaster are being set on the basis of the effective legislation in the case of a professional injury or a professional sickness on a scale which compensates for the actual damage determined in accordance with the rules established by the decision of the USSR Council of Ministers of 3 July, 1984 No 690, but no lower than the amounts provided for by the USSR law on state pensions."

There was no automatic monitoring equipment on this section and the number of surveillance men had been reduced. The cost of the accident will amount to about R100 million or perhaps R80 million if the pipeline is put into use again.

Road Safety Commission Proposed

LD2507210889

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1628 GMT on 25 July continues its recording of the second joint session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet held in the Kremlin on 25 July.

A deputy in uniform says that the military motor vehicle inspection (VAI) doesn't fine military personnel, nor does the GAI (city or state automobile inspection) he suggests that the same penalties should apply to the military and outlines proposed penalties for military personnel. He says responsibility has to be taken for the state of the roads.

At 1630 GMT Deputy Viktor Podziruk from Ivano Oblast says the VAI does not have the same precise duties as the GAI. Another unidentified deputy gives proposed amendments on fines. Another deputy complains about a certain vagueness in the text of the decree, we need to say where the money is going to go, he says, and suggests it should to toward road maintenance. An unidentified Lithuanian deputy speaks of the effect of inflation on fines. A female deputy from the Committee on People's Health Care speaks on the need to increase fines for pedestrians who cause accidents through drinking.

At 1637 GMT Deputy Aleksandr Orlov from Chelyabinsk says fines have to be toughened and compares fines in other countries. The system of road safety in the country needs changing, he says. He points out drawbacks in the current system. Orlov says that personnel cuts have been made in the sphere of road safety under the guise of financial autonomy. The GAI is short of cars and fuel despite an increase in traffic. He proposes creating a commission on road safety as legislative organ. He also proposes forming a state committee on road traffic along the line of those in the United States and UK.

At 1640 GMT an unidentified deputy calls for a different procedure for discussing and examining these decrees. Primakov agrees that it seems that the committees are not doing the work. Another deputy calls for advanced publication of the date of discussion of individual laws or decrees. Also, he says, the head of the relevant committee should come and speak on the matter in question.

At 1645 GMT Primakov says deputies need to be well informed on the matter in hand when they come to the session.

Another deputy proposes replacing a driving ban with stopping wages. He says the decree should not be approved at present.

A deputy makes proposals on how decrees should be organized, prepared, and examined. Another deputy agrees and proposes a different procedure for examination of and voting for decrees etc. Primakov says deputies wanting to speak on procedural matters should put them in writing.

An unidentified deputy proposes lesser penalties for disabled drivers. Deputy Yevgeniy Velikhov from Moscow makes a further procedural point.

Deputy Leonid Bliznov from Moscow Oblast says tax legislation should be examined after examination of this decree, as the two issues are linked. An unidentified deputy from the relevant committee says it was difficult to take account of all of the proposals and observations that came in because they came in so late, many at the weekend.

At 1657 GMT Primakov says there is a proposal to approve the decree, and for supplements to the decree to be prepared by the relevant government body. Voting takes place: The Soviet of Nationalities approves with one against, and two abstentions; the Soviet of the Union approves with 19 against and 14 abstentions.

At 1700 GMT Primakov moves on to the next matter on the agenda: the decree on separating internal troops and railway troops from the Armed Forces of the USSR.

A deputy notes that service is a duty for all citizens and that there are therefore constitutional difficulties.

Armed Forces Decree Approved

LD2507215589

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1702 GMT on 25 July continues its recording of the second joint session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet held in the Kremlin on 25 July.

Another unidentified deputy says the existence of such special troops is a sign of state compulsion, as they don't exist in any democratic country. Deputy Vladimir Kirilov from Voronezh makes a point.

An unidentified deputy in uniform makes another constitutional point with which Primakov disagrees.

At 1705 GMT Minister of Internal Affairs Bakatin takes the floor. He says it makes no difference whether the internal troops stay in the Armed Forces or are withdrawn from the composition of the Armed Forces. He explains their status in the ministry and in the Armed Forces. He says a change will result in further legislative changes. The decree is very simple, he says.

At 1705 GMT a deputy raises the question of alternative military service, but Primakov says it isn't relevant to the matter in hand. Another unidentified deputy makes a procedural point.

At 1710 GMT a vote is taken: The Soviet of Nationalities approves with 3 against and 18 abstentions. The Soviet of the Union approves with 11 against and 11 abstentions. The decree is approved.

A female deputy says that as a result of this decree the Armed Forces will be reduced, and no one has said what their present status will be. Another deputy asks for clarification. Primakov asks for a representative of the general staff. A deputy chief of general staff takes the floor. He talks of the specific tasks of the special branches of troops and the question of cutting the Armed Forces.

A deputy asks to make a recommendation on point 5 of the decree. Another deputy raises another procedural point.

At 1717 GMT an unidentified deputy asks to whom these troops will now be subordinated and Primakov answers.

A deputy in uniform asks for clarification. Primakov says not all details can be cleared up here.

At 1720 GMT Primakov announces a break.

Funds for Road Building Discussed

LD2507224589

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1720 GMT on 25 July begins carrying a recording of the third joint session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of the Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet held in the Kremlin on 25 July. Nishanov, who is in the chair, opens the session. Deputy Fedor Burlatskiy, representing the Soviet Peace Fund, presents an "improved" draft appeal to the Soviet people. He reads it out. Restructuring is at a difficult stage, he says. The Supreme Soviet agrees with the demands that have been made for a quicker pace in perestroyka. The most urgent problems have to be addressed—food, housing etc. He says deputies support measures to raise pensions. He cites laws to be approved which will improve the life of the Soviet people and further the progress of local management. Local Soviet elections should be held, he says, apparatus should be cut, and privileges removed. Measures should be taken to protect people from bureaucratic arbitrariness. The losses inflicted on the economy by the strikes are regretted, he says, adding that there is need for understanding at this crucial stage.

At 1727 GMT Nishanov says the appeal incorporates the wishes of deputies. A deputy asks a question about ownership of land. Another deputy says he likes the text, but calls for a small amendment. There is general discussion about the wording. Another unidentified deputy makes a point about the wording regarding pensions. Minister of Finance Pavlov remarks on the availability of money for pensions. A deputy draws attention to the concept of poor families. Nishanov says the amendments can be accepted.

Voting on whether to adopt this appeal takes place—it is adopted unanimously.

Now back to the agenda, says Nishanov, and amendments to a decree on vehicle taxation.

At 1734 GMT an unidentified deputy draws attention to a difficulty which imposes excessive taxation on rural workers. He calls for an article to be removed. Deputy Vladimir Voblikov from Kaliningrad Oblast says all enterprises should be taxed. An unidentified deputy from the committee gives a brief explanation.

Minister of Finance Pavlov gives background to the decree. It was related to the program to regenerate the Non-Chernozem region of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR], which involves a lot of road building. The money generated by this decree is to be used primarily in rural areas, he says. He goes on to cite categories of vehicles excluded from the taxation.

At 1742 GMT Deputy Sergey Naumov from Chelyabinsk Oblast says it is not only the Non-Chernozem region in which there are no roads—what about Siberia, or the Urals? Because of this the decree should be rejected, he

says. A deputy from Siberia says people in his region laugh when money is raised to improve the roads in the Non-Chernozem region. He wants the money to go to improve Siberian roads.

Deputy (Voskoboynikov) asks Finance Minister Pavlov questions.

Deputy Vorontsov says roads in Central Asia are better than in the RSFSR, but it is unfair for them to pay for roads in another part of the country. The tax should be taken from all organizations, including the military.

An unidentified member of the committee gives more background to the decree.

At 1749 GMT Nishanov asks for proposals. An unidentified deputy makes a point on linking tax with the horsepower. A deputy repeats what Pavlov said: The decree is already in operation, it is only a matter of amending the decree. Another deputy draws attention to certain paradoxes in the vehicle taxation. A deputy makes a point on exemptions. Another deputy also makes a point on exemptions and says a law has to be drawn up before the end of the year. Deputy Nikolay Gritsenko makes a related point. Another deputy complains about taxing combine harvesters

At 1801 GMT a deputy says the timetable for legislation should be adhered to. Pavlov replies to a question raised earlier concerning the amount the tax will raise. He details those who will be exempt. Deputy Leonid Abalkin makes a procedural proposal.

At 1806 GMT Nishanov puts the matter to a vote. There are 13 against in the Soviet of the Union and 22 against and 13 abstentions overall. The amendments are adopted.

Bill on USSR Trade Introduced

LD2507225489

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1808 GMT on 25 July continues its recording of the third joint session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet held in the Kremlin on 25 July.

Nishanov introduces a bill on Soviet trade. Representation abroad is then introduced. Shapirov proposes that they should have financial autonomy.

Deputy Aleksey Yablokov from the Academy of Sciences says that imported equipment should be ecologically pure. An unidentified deputy says that union republics should have their own foreign representation. A deputy from the knowledge society says foreign trade representation should be reconstructed on different principles. Deputy Kim Yen Un from Omsk Oblast discusses diplomatic status of trade representatives.

At 1818 GMT Nishanov expresses support for the proposals voiced; they will be included later. The government will discuss the question of republican trade representations; it needs further discussion, he says

Deputy Vladimir Kurtashin, representing USSR trade unions, says that the law should not be adopted. The whole matter of Soviet foreign trade representation needs to be studied. Enterprises and republics should have their own direct representations. Another deputy says that Soviet foreign trade representation needs to be reformed. An unidentified deputy explains the procedure under which this law was discussed by committees.

At 1827 GMT Nishanov says the question will be returned to the committees for further discussion and be returned for general discussion at a later date.

A deputy says the law is expressed in the old style. Deputy Yuriy Shcherbak from Kiev calls for further discussion of the law.

At 1829 GMT Nishanov proposes to discuss law on leasing. A deputy calls for time to be devoted to information on the Bashkiriyan rail crash; but Nishanov wants to press on with discussion of leasing legislation. Another deputy wants to discuss military service. Nishanov still wants to spend time on the legislation, but he agrees to discuss military service, under duress.

A deputy says that he has had many letters from evening class students who also want exemption from military service. A young deputy in uniform calls for postponing service for certain categories of students. Another deputy requests further extending postponement of military service.

At 1837 GMT an Armed Forces official says that the present exemptions will result in losses to the Armed Forces, so further extensions are unwelcome.

Other deputies propose minor changes to legislation on military service. One deputy calls for further expert discussion. Another deputy makes a proposal on soldiers' leave.

At 1846 GMT Nishanov puts the question to a vote. There are seven against and seven abstentions in the Soviet of the Union, and there are 4 against, and 12 abstentions in the Soviet of Nationalities. The changes in military service law are approved.

A deputy begins discussing the law on leasing. He says the laws have been badly prepared. He wants more major problems to be discussed, such as changing the law on elections. Nishanov discusses procedures.

At 1852 GMT Vitaliy Doguzhiyev, chairman of the State Commission on Emergencies, presents information on the Bashikiriyan rail accident and the current state of the investigation. He speaks for 33 minutes. Deputy Nikolay Sazonov asks an indistinct question.

A deputy asks about current state of supervision on railways. Doguzhiyev replies. Deputy Igor Zelinskiy from Odessa Oblast asks about monitoring of similar place where rail lines run near pipelines.

Another deputy suggests using space monitoring systems.

At 1930 GMT a Chelyabinsk deputy asks about how money contributed by the public after such accidents is used. Doguzhiyev replies.

Deputy Ivan Dyakov from Astrakhan Oblast asks when gas supplies will be restored to rural areas. Another deputy asks who supplied the pipes. He calls for more severe punishment for criminal negligence.

Deputy Khekim Ishanov from Turkmen ASSR calls for a law on pipeline transportation. An unidentified deputy inquires about automatic leak reporting. Another deputy calls for responsibility for train delays.

At 1943 GMT Nishanov reads out a telegram from a Donetsk farm calling on striking miners to return to work. Deputy Yeremey Aypin from Khanty-Mansiysk Okrug tells of increased pensions being paid by his okrug to invalids in advance of the new law.

At 1948 GMT Nishanov reads out various organizational announcements for individual committees before declaring the sitting closed.

Glasnost Committee Chairman Interviewed

PM0607115589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with V.K. Foteyev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Questions of Glasnost and Citizens' Rights and Appeals and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet, by A. Vasinskiy: "At the USSR Supreme Soviet. Glasnost Defended"; date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] Vladimir Konstantinovich Foteyev, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has become chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Questions of Glasnost and Citizens' Rights and Appeals.

He was born in 1935 in the city of Tolyatti. He graduated from Moscow Aviation Technological Institute and worked as a designer at Kuybyshev's aviation factory and at the party rayon committee, city party committee, and oblast party committee [obkom]. He has higher party education. He was elected second secretary of Kuybyshev Party Obkom and first secretary of Chechen-Ingush CPSU Obkom in 1983 and 1984 respectively. He was a delegate to the 27th party congress and the 19th party conference. He is a member of the CPSU Central Committee.

[Vasinskiy] Vladimir Konstantinovich, are you prepared for such a drastic change in your career? You will obviously have to change your way of thinking because you will have to transform yourself from a man who wielded great power—an obkom first secretary does wield great power—into the defender of and mediator for people who are dependent on you, people who are on the other side of the doors of important offices, people who have been badly treated, oppressed, offended, and so forth?

[Foteyev] Well, that is a reasonable question, I must restructure myself in every respect, including my way of thinking. I would not so much as begin to contrast the people on either side of the doors of important offices, to use your expression. Any big boss has another bigger boss or body above him and that is why there is nothing unusual about being in the position of a subordinate, a dependent, or a petitioner.... But I understood your question and I fully realize that new situations and new problems will arise and the nature of my activity will change to some extent... Well, I have thought about that a great deal and I am prepared for it; I like the slogan "All power to the soviets" and although I do not consider the word "apparatchik" a swearword—we have not apparently abolished genuine rather than bogus official and administrative ranks—I nonetheless welcome the limitation of executive power as a result of the increase in the prestige of legislative power. We will work in a new way and I have no doubt that the committee members will help me....

[Vasinskiy] Yes, there are people among the 40 committee members who have already definitely proven their worth either by bold speeches at the Congress or by their previous activity....

[Foteyev] Yes, our committee is taking on militant outlines, there is Gelman, the playwright, journalists Yaroshinskaya and Poltoranin, the investigator Ignatovich, workers, military chiefs, writers, jurists, rural intellectuals, and party workers—in short a strong staff. The main thing is to organize the work from the outset, bearing in mind that this committee is unparalleled in our parliamentary practice. We must seek approaches to impart an official state [gosudarstvennyy] character to our activity and determine a number of political, legal, and organizational measures. I am referring to statutes or draft laws regarding universal discussion of government projects, including both referendums and electivity of leaders. The question of glasnost is particularly important for us. We must introduce the understanding of glasnost not only as a means and an instrument of perestroyka but also as one of its conditions and aims, that is make glasnost a norm of our life. We must begin

with the Supreme Soviet itself, with us, and with full information about what we are doing and how. PRAVITELSTVENNYY VESTNIK is published. That is good. Why not publish a kind of deputies' bulletin?

[Vasinskiy] I heard deputies complaining that provision of information concerning the work of commissions and committees has been badly organized this time and that there are no data and information. Many people are saying that it is time to open a press center at the Supreme Soviet....

[Foteyev] I share that opinion. Moreover, I am in favor of creating a communications group in our committee to communicate with the public, the press, and the other mass media, just as there is at the Foreign Ministry. A shortage of information about top leaders and members of ministerial cabinets has been noted. A man is recommended for a ministerial post. What do deputies know about him apart from what is evident from his brief biographical details? Deputies and all Soviet people inquire why his predecessor is retiring. I may be getting carried away but I want to cite an example. I once got hold of an old prerevolutionary publication—Suvorin's NOVOYE VREMYA—and I saw a page whose left-hand column spoke of all the positive things an outgoing minister had done while the right-hand column carried all manner of complaints, minus points, imperfections, and so on. This seemed so clear. But a man retires in our country and it is not always clear whether he was a good or bad worker and whether he is retiring altogether or just moving to other work. If the latter is the case, what is his new job? Is this information really not important? Deputies are entitled to more complete information about contenders for posts and the reasons for their nomination. Let contenders for high posts set out their programs and be prepared to defend them, like deputies.

[Vasinskiy] Many questions which your committee is tackling will obviously overlap the competence of other committees?

[Foteyev] Yes, today we have already head, in connection with one question, the reproach that we have "trespassed" on the territory of the Committee for the Protection of the People's Health. This is obviously inevitable and there is nothing bad in that. Scientists say that the most promising decisions originate from these clashes of different approaches. I think that our committee must act as a kind of coreporter on questions that other committees submit to the Supreme Soviet. I am referring to the prognosis of the expected results of various proposed legislative acts.

[Vasinskiy] Practical proposals and ideas were heard at your committee's first sitting. Could you say something about that?

[Foteyev] Why not? Hushing up even contentious ideas and proposals would be a violation of the precepts of glasnost, especially from the chairman of the Committee on Questions of Glasnost....

[Vasinskiy] You said "precepts" of glasnost because there are not as yet any laws on glasnost, in other words, a law on the press?

[Foteyev] Such a law does not exist, it is being drafted; there is also an alternative sponsored draft [avtorskiy proyekt], which also merits attention. I have no doubt that when it is adopted the new law will guarantee the irreversibility of the glasnost process and provide a mechanism for its defense. Glasnost is the voice of the people. I hope that a law on the press will transform glasnost into a reliable system which will enable every citizen to influence and monitor the adoption of managerial decisions through feedback. Actually, I said this at the recent Congress.... So, a word about the proposals and ideas voiced by the members of our committee. For instance, I consider the proposal to set up a council on deputies ethics under the committee to be very important and interesting. It is clear what it will tackle. As far as I am aware, the U.S. Congress has a committee of this kind. As I recall an interesting question was raised about the archives as regards timeframe—when, after how many years, archives can be published and made public. There is the question of glasnost in emergency situations, the question of the powers of the Main Administration for Safeguarding State Secrets in the Press, the revision of the lists of confidential information and facilities, and the proposal to elaborate a law on the lawmaking process. The idea is to ensure that there are no anonymous draft laws like the notorious Article 11 Footnote....

[Vasinskiy] Are you in favor of Supreme Soviet sessions being broadcast on television in full?

[Foteyev] Well, you see.... Have you not calculated the economic losses resulting from numerous morning and daily relays? People asked in one half-empty ministry: Where is everybody? "What do you mean, where are they? In the recreation and study room by the television." We must certainly keep within the limits here and think out a system whereby the time of the evening showing is postponed and fullness of information retained.

[Vasinskiy] It was said at the Congress that the Supreme Soviet receives 500,000 letters and appeals annually. You will certainly have to consider the criteria for sorting out your mail.

[Foteyev] Clearly, we do not need to supplant the corresponding departments of the USSR Supreme Soviet Secretariat, we must focus on the essentials. Evidently we must aim from the very outset to generalize and provide a structured analysis of the reasons behind similar complaints. There is a great deal that is unclear at

present, in particular with regard to technical equipment. We will see how the land lies and learn from it. You realize that defense of citizens' rights is a serious matter. We will glean experience. We are expecting committee members themselves to wholly devote themselves to the work otherwise everything will once again be done for us...by the apparatus. Moreover, there are proposals to study the work experience of the parliaments in developed democratic countries on these problems. There's certainly a great deal that's of use there, so why start from scratch....

[Vasinskiy] There's obviously no need to start from scratch but we need a modified model adapted to our lack of political roads.

[Foteyev] The processes of the past few years, in particular the Congress of Deputies have, in my opinion, considerably improved the state of our sociopolitical roads, although I agree that there are still many impassable areas.... That is why deputies gather for a session and that is why we set up our Committee On Questions of Glasnost, Citizens' Rights and....

[Vasinskiy] Yes, the committee's task is to defend citizens' rights. What rights does it have itself in order to—and this is my final question—fulfill its mission well?

[Foteyev] I think that the times when executive power was above legislative power have passed. Everyone must realize that. This means that our rights are a priority. In my opinion, our committee must be subordinate to the country's Supreme Soviet and through it to the Congress.

PRAVDA Editorial Assesses 'Labor Discipline'

PM2507161589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jul 89 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Labor Discipline: Preventing Losses of Worktime"]

[Text] The state of the country's national economy was one of the main topics of debate at the recent Congress of USSR People's Deputies. Attention is also focused on these questions at the USSR Supreme Soviet session. More than enough problems have accumulated here. Without belittling what has already been done, people's deputies are noting serious deficiencies in the economy, the unwieldiness of management structures, shortcomings in planning, shortages of good-quality products in mass demand, and much else that hinders progess and the more vigorous pursuit of perestroyka. Moreover, they are mentioning particularly often the decline of labor discipline in production as one of the causes of many deficiencies.

Labor discipline is a broad term. Poor standards of discipline mean thoughtless economic decisionmaking, wasteful construction projects, and poor quality of work accompanied by major losses due to waste. It also means more absenteeism and idle time. Take for example, the Chernobyl tragedy or industrial enterprise and transportation accidents. Gross violations of technological processes and of rules governing the utilization of equipment and mobile facilities, and at times downright elementary irresponsibility, cause tremendous economic and moral damage and result in a loss of human life.

Every instance of inability to display professionalism at work, of action contrary to common sense, of breaches of rules, instructions, or prescriptions for selfish personal or group purposes must be put in the spotlight of glasnost and must be strictly evaluated in conformity with the law. The cost of such instances was mentioned at the Congress of People's Deputies. Culprits were also named: those who are not averse to setting discipline in opposition to democracy and loudly proclaiming that firm discipline and order in production are supposedly an attempt to curb democracy. But true democracy cannot exist without a strengthening of every person's responsibility to the collective and society.

Let us pause to think: Why did the miners' strike occur? One of the main causes is the fact that, for years on end, the coal sector's leadership violated state discipline. The ministry has done very little during the years of perestroyka to ensure that the Law on the State Enterprise operated not formally but in substance. The implementation of the main provisions of economic reform at mines and open pits was dragging on intolerably in the sector, the ministry showed little concern for the improvement of people's life. Furthermore, it deprived the mines of economic autonomy, obstructed the collectives' transition to lease contracts, and gave them no rights to deal with any above-plan output.

Events in the mining regions alarmed the entire country. They were carefully analyzed by the USSR Supreme Soviet, which took soviet, economic, and trade union organs, at both central and local level, strictly to task. It was deemed necessary to immediately prepare and adopt laws, specifically on lease contracts, on the introduction of amendments to the laws on the state enterprise, on the cooperative movement, and a law on general principles of local self-management. These and other measures will help to more successfully solve the social problems and, of course, to strengthen discipline and order in production.

Why did people strike? Because social justice was being neglected. They were fed promises. A multiplicity of resolutions were adopted without being backed up by action. Much was said about power at the local level. Yet local soviets have neither the resources nor sufficient rights to improve people's living conditions and daily life.

Strikes as a form of expression of working people's interests, deputies noted, can be justified in some respects, but they cannot be allowed to become permanent in nature. Here trade unions can do a great deal, but

they are not doing so. They are to blame for the fact that the working rhythm was broken at coal sector enterprises. Trade union committees, trade union councils, and the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions were not really principled and persistent and failed to ensure that the workers' legitimate demands were promptly examined and satisfied prior to the strikes. The breaches of work rhythm were not caused by workers' freeloading. The miners are not asking for state handouts. They want the opportunity to earn more for their country, region, city, and themselves thanks to better economic management, an efficient pace of work, and tight labor discipline.

In every sector it is very important to correctly assess peoples' labor contribution. After all, what happens? An enterprise, shop, or team operates at a profit and generates a good income, while others make a loss, but the wage of the collectives, laggard or pacesetting, is identical. This practice is so ingrained that some people think it perfectly normal. Wage leveling lowers the standing of the honest, skillful worker and does not encourage the lazy or bad workman to do honest, creative, fully committed work. The downgrading of the assessment of actual work results slows down the growth in skills of both production and managerial personnel. Encouraging hard work is one way of getting the economy out of stagnation and enhancing work quality.

The following question was put in a sociological survey conducted among workers in the enterprises of various sectors. What prevents you doing better work? A considerable majority of respondants cited shortcomings in the organization of production, inefficient utilization of professional qualities, and the imperfect remuneration system. The questionnaire convincingly showed yet again that our people want to work at full capacity and to be rewarded according to what they put in.

This is precisely how things stand, for example, at the Moscow Calculation and Analysis Equipment Plant, the Cherkassy "Rotor" Association, the Grodno Textile and Thread Association, and a number of other enterprises. Here the organization of production is well thought out, lease relations are used, and people are encouraged to do creative, productive work. In these conditions it would be shameful to do shoddy work, as they say. People value their workplace. They believe it is right to call lazy, shoddy, irresponsible workers strictly to account.

The number of enterprises where they turn a blind eye to transgressors of labor, technological, and social discipline and have become accustomed to cases of slipshod work and deviations from the established procedure is not diminishing. There are also some people with a guaranteed wage whose main aim is not to do too much work, which is essentially also a violation of labor discipline. But the most serious production ill is waste of work time. The numerous stoppages of equipment and machinery, breakdowns at the interface between various links in the technological chain, and upsets in the planned rhythm with subcontractors are connected with absenteeism or people turning up late for work or failing to turn up at all—with the permission of "kindhearted" leaders. The impunity of those guilty of these things not only damages the production process itself but also the moral climate in the collective, as well as irritating conscientious workers and pandering to poor discipline.

Democratization is gathering momentum in society. And if some people are inclined to regard it as total license, they have failed to grasp the deep meaning of the changes being made. Firm labor discipline actively assists restructuring and is the basis of the country's improved economic wellbeing. It is also connected with reviving in every Soviet person the sense of being master of his own country and a sense of responsibility for everything being undertaken by our people.

Russian Workers Strike, Protest in Estonia

LD2607173489 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1600 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev welcomed today the Baltic Union republics' striving for economic independence. At the same time, Russian speaking workers in Estonia continue their protests against the Baltic independence movement. Here is our correspondent Thomas Nordegren:

[Nordegren] The Supreme Soviet is now discussing the Baltic Republics' economic self-management. Mikhail Gorbachev began by saying that regional economic self-management is the most important question the new Supreme Soviet is discussing. He also said that if the reform of the Soviet economy is to succeed it is necessary to move away from central control. The economy must be built on free trade between the union republics. But several delegates warned that a market economy and free trade can be used by what they called nationalists and extremists. The leader of the Estonian Interfront movement, which groups together Russian speaking workers in Estonia, was in Moscow today and warned Gorbachev about the Balts' extremism and hatred of Russians.

In Tallinn the Russian speaking population again showed today its anxiety by extending wildcat strikes. At least 10,000 workers stopped work in Tallinn today. For instance, at the Ret radio factory the strike committee cut off power and thus prevented even the Estonian speakers from working. The most serious threat is of strikes by the transport companies responsible for food transportation. Food distribution was paralyzed today in the Estonian capital. The Russian workers placed pickets at the vehicle depots and slashed the tires of Estonian drivers who wanted to continue working. Unconfirmed reports this evening say that personnel at Tallinn Airport have also stopped work and have stopped all air traffic.

The strike leaders today met representatives of the Estonian Supreme Soviet, which has postponed voting on new electoral laws for 10 days in order to try to

achieve a compromise. The electoral laws would seriously limit the opportunities of Russian immigrants, such as military personnel, to vote in the Estonian local elections, the strike leaders say.

While the Baltic People's Fronts today received an unexpectedly positive response from Gorbachev at the Supreme Soviet in Moscow, it seems to be considerably more difficult to win the support of the Russian speaking minorities in the Baltic states.

Aeroflot Joins Estonia Strike

LD2607172489 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Tallinn July 26 TASS—The strike started by some enterprises of the Estonian capital on July 24 continues.

According to the republic's strike committee, composed of representatives of labour collectives of enterprises employing mostly non-Estonians, about ten Tallinn enterprises have been on strike today. Among the enterprises on strike are the Baltiiskiy and Tallinnskiy ship-repair plants, the "Ret" radio Electronic Association and others. Today the strike was joined by Aeroflot officials.

The demands of the strikers are the same: Firstly, it is to suspend the republic's law on the language which, in the view of a certain part of non-Estonian population, is discriminatory and, secondly, to drastically revise the draft law on elections to the local bodies of power, which restricts the election right by the duration of residence. Discussion of this draft law, begun on Monday by the session of the republic's Supreme Soviet, has been postponed.

The strikers also demand that the republican leadership give a principled appraisal to the demands of the authorised representatives council of the Popular Front to annul the declaration of 22 July 1940 on the establishment of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic, which, in the opinion of workers, means an appeal to secede from the USSR.

Besides, the strikers demand that a legal and political appraisal be given to the so-called civilian committees which are being organised in Estonia at the initiative of extremist groupings, including the so-called party of national independence of Estonia. In the concept of their organisers, the civilian committees may become an alternative power structure in Estonia. The Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party has already condemned the establishment of these committees.

Airport on Strike; Flights Continue

LD2607201189 Tallinn Domestic Service in Estonian 1700 GMT 26 Jul 89

[From the "Echo of the Day" program]

[Excerpts] The United Council of Work Collectives, Intermovement, the republican strike committee and God knows who else have all assiduously adopted a role supporting—if only in name—a self-managing Estonia. Unfortunately, these people have a strange understanding of our people's endeavors. What indeed are those inciting a strike striving for? This is what Ain Saarna went to investigate.

[Saarna] We already announced that Estonian Civil Aviation began a strike at 1400 today. I arrived at the airport at 1600. An official was just posting a notice on the wall that basically said: We apologize for the inconvenience. The inconvenience is substantiated: we are on strike. We demand citizen's and political rights for all people residing in the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic regardless of nationality.

I asked the official to clarify the inconvenience.

[Begin recording in Russian] [Official] The message means that we have disconnected all telephones at the airport, which means those facilities no longer exist. We provide no information on flight arrivals and departures, though flights are continuing. The departures hall has been closed.

[Saarna] Who made this decision?

[Official] The strike committee. I am a member of the strike committee.

[Saarna] What is your job?

[Official] Shift-leader on transfers. [end recording]

[Saarna] I was also allowed into the aviation strike committee, which was located in the office of the party secretary. It became clear from a polite conversation that the strike is planned to last until 1400 tomorrow. I was also acquainted with the demands of the warning strike. A fundamental reelaboration is sought for the election law for the local soviets as well as halting the law on language, and the activity of the citizens' committees was condemned. Let us, however, listen to another bit of conversation from the offices of the airport.

[Begin recording] Airport administrator, Ulle Roosma, you have just changed your job.

[Roosma] We were told to leave the administrator's box without an administrator and that they would seal the door of the box, and now I am working at the first registration desk. On the whole they want people to obtain no information. I left a note there that I would be at the first registration desk and who ever notices that can come and find me here. All telephones have been disconnected, and there is no information. [Saarna] This is rather foolish and like a child's game, all of it.

[Roosma] Yes indeed, but they also know, of course, that if flights do not take place, they can incur big fines. They obviously did not go for that, and flights are indeed leaving on schedule.

[Saarna] At the moment is it not unpleasant to be in such a collective?

[Roosma] We have no misunderstandings between ourselves. There are no such, well, tensions on ethnic issues, but somewhere on the side such things are done. I don't know. [end recording]

[Saarna] Somewhere on the side. I will add here a few facts from tonight's telephone conversation with Aleksandr Tereshov, director of the sixth branch of the Tallinn motor transport. At 1630 a meeting took place there to discuss the issue of joining the strike. The meeting decided to call the strike for tomorrow morning, but deliveries of foodstuffs around the town will not be discontinued. A representation of the strike committee and Rudyak of Intermovement were also present at the meeting. After the, so to speak, festive part of the meeting was over, some people stayed behind to set up a strike committee at the branch, but they got stuck. There were no people found to run the strike. How the situation at the sixth branch is resolved will become clear tomorrow morning.

At this point I do not want to summarize the enterprises on strike in Tallinn and the number of people involved. That would simply be unfair and offensive to the honest workmen who continue work even at those enterprises that have noisly declared themselves to be on strike, but I will extract a recommendation from the statement by Aeroflot because that will fit the working people better than those on strike. In translation it sounds roughly like this: To demand from workers heightened attention in connection with possible provocations of extremist elements.

Further on Tallinn Strikes

LD2607221889 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Jul 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] [V. Flyarkovskiy] Strikes have been declared for 2 days at about 15 enterprises in Tallinn. The working people of the Dvigatel works, one of the largest enterprises on strike, came to this decision:

[Unidentified man] The question of whether to continue the strike or not was discussed at a meeting today. In general, it was decided with only two votes against to send a telegram to the republic's leaders—who are now at the Supreme Soviet session—to ask them to return to the republic and commence negotiations and examine our demands. From the moment they sit down to discuss them, we will stop the strike and work will continue.

[Flyarkovskiy] At the leading enterprise of the Elektrotekhnika scientific production association, the strike began on the morning of 25 July:

[Second unidentified man] The following decision was made: to conduct a survey of each person who works here, at the leading enterprise, and if the majority of members of our collective were against the strike, to stop it and regard it as a 1-day stoppage. Seventy percent came out in favor of stopping the strike and 30 percent in favor of holding it.

[Flyarkovskiy] So the strike has been recognized as a warning strike and has been stopped?

[Man] Quite right.

Official on Transport Situation

LD2607201289 Tallinn Domestic Service in Estonian 1700 GMT 26 Jul 89

[From the "Echo of the Day" program]

[Text] At the republican transport committee, I have found that it is possible to continue work even without those who have a wish to strike. Toivo Aare went to clarify this situation.

[Begin recording] [Aare] Tiit Vahi, chairman of the Estonian Transport Committee, a conference in the hall of the collegium just recently came to an end. The subject, as is known, was strikes that have started within the past few days in some motor transport enterprises. I heard the end of the conference and I understand that it is quite clear to you how to act in the situation that has developed.

[Vahi] First and foremost, we think that strikes are not exceptional things in the world. Here indeed we have strikes for the first time, and in that connection there is perhaps confusion to start with, up to a point. But I think that first and foremost to emerge from the situation are the enterprises themselves, because thanks to those strikes they will indeed be in great economic difficulties. We at the Transport Committee do not intend in any way to take those enterprises that are on strike under our wing and to start lecturing them and telling them how they should act. I think that this in fact is a matter for the enterprises themselves, the leadership of the enterprises, and public organizations of the enterprises—I mean here the party organizations and trade unions and evidently also the work collective and strike committees.

Our task here at the moment is in fact to organize emergency work in the republic so that the main national economy interests are met. I think that today there were two enterprises on strike, with somewhere around 400 vehicles, which is not at all a large number for the republic.

I held talks today with the leadership of other Tallinn branches. They had a very understanding attitude toward the need to assist through their own branches. Tomorrow at 0900, a conference of all republican motor transport enterprises will take place here, in the hall of

the committee. I have already received information that the republican transport enterprises will hold out their helpful hand and assist in carrying out the main transport work. Well, we will have to also give up one thing or the other, but now it is necessary to make up a kind of priority list, first and foremost guaranteeing the transport of foodstuffs, transport for people, followed by services at railway stations where delays or disruptions may be expected.

We also consider the transport of fuel important as well as the servicing of those enterprises where some kind of technology really depends on transport, otherwise production may stop. We have just now adopted the appropriate resolutions and set up a control service that will begin organizing journeys. This will create a good picture of how the vehicles, having arrived here from other towns and rayons in the republic, so to speak, should really be able here to work, and so that they would always receive clear instructions. We hope that the situation is fully under control and that we will resolve it.

I personally think that one could say to the people of Estonia that there are no major disruptions of any kind to be foreseen; at the moment a couple of enterprises are on strike. I am totally convinced that at those enterprises at least half of the workers would like to go back to work but the gates are blocked, so they cannot get to work. This situation should be resolved quite soon but we are ready, well, to hold out for longer, with the help of other enterprises. I am quite sure that this plan to paralyze and sabotage the republican national economy by disrupting transport, is quite definitely destined to fall through. [end recording]

Miners in Pechora Region End Strike, Resume Work
LD2707080489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Text] The first nightshift after the week-long strike has been a difficult one for the miners at Vorkuta. A large number of faults were discovered in all the mines. Proper maintenance has been lacking during this time, and this has already resulted in much less coal being extracted than usual. The strike has deprived the miners of almost all their above-plan reserves of fuel, and substantially affected the reserves of the social development fund of the town and enterprises. Nonetheless, the life of the Pechora coal region is gradually returning to normal. Our correspondent Yevgeniy Zubarev reports that the collectives of all the mines of the Vorkutaugol and Intaugol production associations are now back at work.

Vorkuta Mines Resume Operations
LD2607120589 Moscow TASS in English 1129 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Vorkuta, Komi Autonomous Republic, July 26—By TASS correspondent Viktor Makarov: The miners' house of culture and the square in front of it in the centre of Vorkuta, which until recently were filled with striking miners, have been deserted. The stoppage has been suspended and all 13 pits of the Vorkutaugol Association have resumed normal work from this morning.

Pit workers of the city, which is located beyond the Arctic Circle, heard reports about Tuesday's [25 July] meeting of Soviet Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov with members of worker collectives of the Pechora coal basin with satisfaction. Vorkuta television showed footage of the meeting. The protocol of measures agreed-upon by the city strike committee, the city rally of Vorkuta miners and the government commission was made public on Tuesday evening.

The decision that, under the provisions of this protocol, the USSR Council of Ministers will adopt a resolution on issues within its competence within ten days and put forward proposals on issues which are within the competence of the USSR Supreme Soviet was also made public.

At night the general rally of pit workers supported the proposal by the city strike committee to suspend the strike pending the adoption of a resolution by the USSR Council of Ministers. The miners also decided to send their representatives to Moscow to take part in working out the draft.

Government Official Views Mine Situation 26 Jul
LD2607155989 Moscow TASS in English 1521 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—More and more mines that quite recently were paralysed by the strike are resuming normal work. Reports on each mine that resumed work are promptly transmitted by teleprinting service to the USSR Ministry of Coal Industry.

"This process became more dynamic in the past 24 hours," Viktor Zhdamirov, deputy minister of coal industry, told TASS. "Yesterday at 1600 there were 79 mines that stood idle, while today, on July 26, at the same hour, the figure is 31. These include one mine of the Gukovugol Trust in Rostov, the Russian Federation, and 24 mines of the Glavvoroshilovgradugol Trust, the Ukraine. The situation in western Ukraine is as follows: All the Chernovograd mines are working, while their neighbours, six mines of the Volyn Group, still remain idle.

"In the north of the country all the miners resumed coal production. Moreover, we received a telegram today from the workers' committee of the Krasnoyarskugol Trust which stresses on behalf of the whole of the labour collective that in a complicated economic situation existing in the country it is impermissible to settle even acute problems by means of strikes."

TRUD Views Latest Strike Developments

PM2607182389

[Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian on 26 July carries on page 3 under the headline "The Dialogue Continues" a 1,200-word roundup of "Own Information" and own correspondent reports covering the latest strike developments in different parts of the country.

An "Own Information" report from the Kuzbass reads as follows:

"The absolute majority of Kuzbass miners are aware of their responsibility for making good the losses as soon as possible, and therefore want to work with maximum effort. In the last 24 hours for example, the mines and open pits dispatched 6,300 tonnes of coal over and above the intense plan to consumers in different parts of the country. Not a great amount, but nonetheless a significant step forward after the mass work stoppages.

"The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, and All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU] Commission today completed its meetings with working people and residents in 13 (out of 19) cities in the oblast and with local strike committees.

"The commission's working groups, together with local party, soviet, and trade union organs and the regional strike committee, are continuing work on elaborating draft documents to be submitted for examination by the government and the USSR Supreme Soviet."

TRUD's own correspondent N. Mokrishchev reports from Donetsk:

"The square outside the Donetsk House of Soviets is deserted. Striking miners departed soon after watching the evening television report from the sitting of the USSR Supreme Soviet session that discussed the situation in the country's coal mining regions and the report on N.I. Ryzhkov's meeting with representatives of Donetsk Oblast strike committees. The Donetsk miners resumed work 25 July.

"The oblast's coal mines are gradually returning to their normal work pace. Extraction in the last 24 hours amounted to 144,000 tonnes of coal, or 60 percent of normal extraction volumes.

"According to preliminary data, direct losses incurred during the strike alone are in excess of R100 million. In addition, and due to prolonged work stoppages, 155 working faces are out of operation, 63 of them being equipped with expensive and highly productive mechanized equipment. Six longwalls are flooded."

An "Own Information" report from Voroshilovgrad states:

"The situation in Voroshilovgrad Oblast's mining towns is not the same everywhere. Whereas miners in Rovenki and Lisichansk did not go out on strike and those in Krasnodon and Pervomaysk have resumed work, passions remain unabated in Krasnyy Luch, Stakhanov, Bryanka, and Antratsit. Miners in the Voroshilovgrad region insist that immediate questions raised by them be discussed at the very top.

"Strikers in Stakhanov did not disperse from the central square yesterday until the end of a party city committee [gorkom] plenum that examined their demand that Gorkom First Secretary N.F. Dyma be relieved of his duties. They also demanded that the entire leadership of the city soviet executive committee be replaced.

"Following the signing of a protocol on measures agreed with the USSR Council of Ministers and AUCCTU commission working in the oblast, the oblast's united strike committee yesterday called on miners in the Voroshilovgrad region to return to work. The call is reaching the hearts and minds of a growing number of miners."

TRUD's own correspondent I. Ostrovskiy reports from Pavlograd:

"Workers in three of Pervomaysk city's mines resumed work by the end of the day on 24 July. But strikes continue at the remaining eight mines under the 'Pavlogradugol' Production Association.

"M.I. Shchadov, USSR minister of the coal industry, arrived in Pavlograd yesterday morning. The dialogue with the strike committee and participants in a rally outside the party gorkom lasted several hours. The minister announced that he has been instructed by the government to resolve within 10 days all questions within the department's competence and to prepare material for government decisions and their discussion at the USSR Supreme Soviet's September session. At the miners' demand, the production association's General Director Ye. Ponomarev submitted his resignation.

"The rally participants were told at 1400 that strike committee representatives had returned after a conversation with N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The miners received guarantees that their demands had been accepted and will be examined.

"At 1430 strike committee chairman S. Veselov put to the vote a proposal that work be resumed with the morning shift on 26 July. It was unanimously accepted."

The dispatch by TRUD's own correspondent V. Otyashkin from Perm Oblast reads as follows:

"Miners in Shumikhinskaya Mine, which is the largest in terms of coal extraction in the 'Kizelugol' Association, stopped work Monday.

"The strike committee assumed full responsibility for order at the faces and in the 'Yubileynyy' miners' settlement. The strikers put forward a 52-point package of demands. The main points cover economic autonomy, cutbacks in the administrative apparatus, and the solution of social, consumer services, and ecological problems. The miners also expressed lack of confidence in the mine's trade union committee and the labor collective council and demanded their immediate re-election. Almost one-half of the questions were dealt with in the course of talks between miners and the mine and association administration and party and soviet leaders of Gremyachinsk City. The remaining demands were handed over by strikers to USSR People's Deputy S.L. Kharif for transmission to Moscow.

"The strike continued Tuesday. Some of the association's other mines backed the strikers' demands but decided not to stop work."

TRUD's roundup ends with the following report from own correspondent A. Isayev in Rostov-na-Donu:

"Miners from the mine named for the 60th anniversary of the Leninist Komsomol are prepared to resume work on the following condition: downward revision of what the miners consider to be an overly intense plan for coal extraction lacking in material and organizational support, from 3 million to 2.7 million tonnes per year. This is the main one of four demands. This was said in a telegram sent by the miners to M.I. Shchadov, USSR minister of the coal industry, last Friday. But the question remains unresolved to this day and the strike continues. Losses since the start of this labor conflict already amount to almost 50,000 tonnes of coal. The strikers perform only work needed to prevent the mine flooding.

" 'The minister promised to come and answer our questions. We hope that the problems perturbing us will be finally resolved, and the strike will continue until they are,' A. Suprunov, strike committee member and face worker, said."

Voroshilovgrad Miners Meet Voronin, To End Strike

LD2607190589 Moscow TASS in English
1858 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS—Decisions providing for an end to the strike at the Voroshilovgrad mines were worked out here today at a meeting between Lev Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Stepan Shalayev, chairman of the USSR Central Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU), with coal miners of the region.

Miners were informed of the work conducted by the Council of Ministers to draft government decisions based on protocols signed at localities by strike committees and commissions of the USSR Council of Ministers and the AUCCTU. These documents contain solutions to questions on improving working and living conditions of miners and raising efficiency in the coal industry.

As a result of the detailed and principled exchange of opinions, the sides worked out mutually acceptable decisions providing for an end to the job action at the region's mines.

All Donbass Coal Mines Resume Operations

LD2607155189 Moscow TASS in English
1416 GMT 26 Jul 89

["All Donbass Coal Mines Back at Work"—TASS headline]

[Text] Donetsk July 26 TASS—All Donbass coal mines are returning to normal work after the ten-day strike. People are satisfied that the conflict has been settled.

Now the main task facing labour collectives, party committees, Soviets of People's Deputies and trade unions is to thoroughly analyse all the developments, to reveal and evaluate the root causes of the strike and to secure their elimination. In many districts where public organisations displayed inertia, made miscalculations and found themselves outside the main developments of the past few days new labour collective councils and trade union committees are being elected. Energetic and capable people, active supporters of perestroyka, have been nominated as candidates.

Losses From Donetsk Strike Outlined

LD2607130589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
0500 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Report by Gennadiy Kondaurov in Donetsk—live relay]

[Text] [Kondaurov] Hello, can you hear me, Moscow?

[Presenter] Of course, very well.

[Kondaurov] All of the mines in Donetsk Oblast have been operating since this morning, the work shift has begun, people have got their job orders, they have gone to the pit-face, and they are mining coal. Yesterday the overwhelming majority of mines were operating, more than 100. In Torez, some of the mines in that region were still not working, and the whole point is that people are badly informed about what is happening, information is reaching certain regions late, but today everyone is working. Over the last day the coal extraction plan has not been fulfilled, because it is very difficult to get back into the normal working rhythm following a strike, no matter how much the strikers tried to monitor the technical condition of the mines—and this was encouraged by the strike committees.

Here is a figure: 150 pit-faces have been taken out of operation, they have to undergo preliminary repairs; 63 drifts have suffered blockages, and water has found its way into 6 drifts. All of this has to be eliminated so as to get normal work under way. But at the present time, strike committees at many of the mines, in union with specialists and the mine administrations, have as a priority gotten down to getting a real, fine working rhythm under way, and making up the losses that have occurred. And in those places where this work was well organized from the outset, and the strike committees monitored things, they have come through with the least losses, for example, the Zasyadko mine, the Zhdanovskaya mine—it takes its name from the settlement where the miners live, it is an old settlement, Zhdanovka—and at this mine the day's plan was fulfilled yesterday. And they are promising that tomorrow even the 5-year plan will be fulfilled at this mine.

[Presenter] OK, Gennadiy, could you tell us a bit about the losses resulting from the strike?

[Kondaurov] The losses have turned out to be substantial. The shortfall over these days in coal extraction comes to more than 1.5 million tonnes. Calculations are currently under way in all places as to how much has been lost overall, in all varieties, and according to preliminary calculations the losses in Donetsk Oblast alone will exceed R100 million.

But another remarkable thing is that the labor collectives of the mines will suffer a shortfall in their funds for social development, for the development of the enterprises and so on, those funds which are currently being formed from profits, they will suffer a R6-million shortfall. I think that these are, of course, large losses, and the miners—I have met many of them—are saying that there should not be such an event, that they had embarked on this event as an extreme measure, so as to present their demands and demand social justice. They believe the strike was primarily a demand for social justice, a demand for an acceleration in perestroyka. And at many of the mines the strike committees are currently working very hard to make up the losses.

[Presenter] But what are the strike committees actually doing?

[Kondaurov] They exist—reelections are currently under way in the labor collective councils. In some places this work has already been completed, the miners got down to it straight away; in some places they did it during the strikes. At the Zhdanovskaya mine, for example, they did it during the strike, in the town of Shakhtersk they did it during the strike at many of the mines, and the strike committees were also among those elected to membership of the labor collective councils. And there is currently a transfer of authority under way from the strike committees to the labor collective councils. But the strike committees are taking part in the elaboration of government acts, the legislative acts that will be presented to the USSR Supreme Soviet relating to the demands that were agreed upon by the miners and the government commission. They are traveling to Moscow and working on these documents.

But there is a lot of work at their own mines, too. For example, at the Oktyabrskaya mine the strike committee has decided that there is no need there for the records department, which consisted of 14 people. They have proposed that the administration eliminate this department, especially as there is an automated record system. After all, we are installing computers everywhere and yet these services, accounting of all sorts, bookkeeping, still remain and are even flourishing. A similar order is being introduced by the strike committees at many other mines, they are eliminating certain unnecessary administrative levels, they are proposing reductions in the numbers of production associations, and a very important process is currently under way in the sense that full independence has been granted to the mines.

This was stated at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov has spoken of this. How should it be used? And it has turned out that this is a very serious question. At many mines they simply turned out to be unprepared for this; the mines operate at a loss, they don't make a profit. What is to be done? Independence can lead to collapse. Some sort of associations or amalgamations are needed. The miners have advocated in no uncertain terms the elimination of the main production and technical administratiion for coal extraction in Donetsk Oblast, this is, so to speak, an administration from the Moscow ministry here in the Donbass. Well, they have called for its elimination in no uncertain terms. But now they are thinking that in some places the associations have to be left, in others amalgamations have to be set up. For example, the Donetskugol production association, one of the largest in the Ukraine, which is not only engaged in coal mining but also carries out a huge amount of housing construction—it builds sanatoriums and has its own building resources, production resources of various kinds, repair facilities and so on—is thinking of converting this enterprise into a firm that will cooperate with the Donbass metallurgical works, with the coking by-product works, to make an intersectoral firm.

Donbass Strikes Criticized as 'Too Long'

PM2607185589 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 26 Jul 89 p 3

[Report by own correspondent G. Dorofeyev: "Lessons of the Strike"]

[Text] Donetsk—Midnight, 25 July. The square in front of the Donetsk party oblast committee [obkom] building is a marvelous spectacle. It is filled with thousands of miners, lamps burning on their helmets. Some are sitting on the lawn, where the grass has been trampled flat, others are huddled together in groups discussing their problems, yet others have covered vegetable crates with

newspapers and are playing dominoes. But, no matter what they are doing, they all have the same thought in their minds: What is going on there, in Moscow? What is the miners' delegation that was sent there to deliver the protocol "On Measures Agreed Between the Miners' Strike Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers and All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions Commission" going to bring back?

In one of the groups that had formed on the steps in front of the entrance to the party obkom, a lively conversation was in progress about the press, and, obviously, I was unable to pass by.

"What are our papers writing?" one miner asked and then answered his own question: "Untruths. Take the start of the strike. On the 3d day they were already writing that it had ended in one place, and then in another, whereas in fact our guys were continuing to strike."

Incidentally, that did happen. But it reflected the uncertain development of events. Journalists simply could not keep up with what was happening. In Makeyevka, for example, they decided to end the strike, and the journalists dashed off to report this to their readers. But as the paper was being published the miners revoked their decison and returned to the square.

There were many examples of this type.

It is a fact that mining is the toughest work around. The miners were correct in their demands. But to be absolutely honest, their return to work was long overdue and they stayed over 2 days too long in the square. They should have gone back to work as soon as the city strike committee and government commission signed the agreement protocol. That is what strike committee chairman A. Bokarev was urging the miners to do. But the miners did not accept this suggestion. They ceased to go along with the strike committee they had elected themselves, and turned into an unruly mass. The strikers' behavior could have resulted in unpredictable consequences. Party, soviet, and economic workers were worried. "The boat had begun to rock dangerously," as one people's deputy put it.

But common sense prevailed. The majority of miners did not yield to the provocations. During that sleepless night they assessed the future of their strike and their conduct in it. Many Communists had taken charge of strike committees and had earned the miners' appreciation. There were others who were dismayed. This must all be assessed. There is no strike law at the moment, so mistakes are inevitable. But one thing is clear: The struggle for perestroyka has risen to a higher level. M.S. Gorbachev talked about this in his address to the miners of Donetsk. It was talked about at the USSR Supreme Soviet session. But the miners were not yet confident that all their demands would be met. They were waiting for the return of their envoys, who were supposed to meet with USSR Council of Ministers Chairman N.I. Ryzhkov in Moscow. The meeting had taken place, but no one yet knew the outcome of the discussion.

At 0100 the delegation from Moscow appeared in the square.

"Comrades," strike committee chairman A. Bokarev said. "Complete agreement has been reached. Our demands will be met."

These words were applauded. By 0200 the square was empty. The Donbass miners' strike was over. But its lessons have yet to be learned. The miners have hade their demands met. That is good. But one must also mention the losses. During the strike more than 1 million tonnes of fuel did not get produced, 75,000 tonnes of which would have been used for household needs. The enterprises "lost" R40 million and enterprise social development and renewal funds diminished.

Coal enterprises have suffered enormous damage. It is now known that 155 faces are out of action because of cave-ins. Sixty-three coal-mining complexes costing R1 million each have been partially or irreparably damaged.

The Donbass coal sector and, consequently, the country's entire national economy will feel the effect of the strike for a long time to come.

Commentator Views Impact of Miners' Strikes

LD2607214289 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 26 Jul 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Commentator Andrey Konstantinov—identified by caption] Good evening. And so the strike in the Kuzbass has been called off. The kray's work pace is returning to normal. According to reports, the miners in Mezhdurechensk had already produced 23,000 tonnes of coal above plan by Sunday.

The problems posed by the mines are being actively discussed by the corps of deputies and will be solved as soon as possible. Today, however, I should like to dwell on the following aspect of the strike. The strike clearly divided people into those who are really with the people and those who are just using that name as a cover. Specifically, the strike revealed the total bankruptcy of many trade union functionaries.. At times the situation became utterly absurd. I would go to the square and the miners themselves would be brought there by the administration. [video shows Konstantinov talking to a miner]

[Begin recording] [Miner] I am a representative of the Butovskaya mine. Our mine's collective demanded a reelection of the trade union committee and of the council of the Labor Collective [STK]. They expressed a complete lack of confidence in them. So fresh elections to our STK will be held literally tomorrow or the day

after, and we have just decided to hold fresh elections for the trade union committee. We shall be working in the meantime anyway. So, in 2 months' time we shall be voting. We have now been providing people with the information—we are providing it and have already provided the information, we give it out to the shifts—and let them prepare worthy candidates, so that they are people who have worked. The miners have now realized: What does our trade union committee represent? It is kept completely out of things. It is kept out of things completely. And so we just voiced our lack of confidence. [end recording] [video switches to Konstantinov in the studio]

[Konstantinov] In Leninsk-Kuznetskiy, the strike committee of the Leninskaya mine administration was led by Comrade Denisov, secretary of the party committee; and in Mezhdurechensk, the secretary of the party of the Raspadskaya mine was a member of the strike committee, whereas the Party Town Committee of Mezhdurechensk and several other town party committees displayed elementary fear, had no precise plan of action, and so forfeited fully the trust and respect of the people. Hot on the heels of the strike, workers' meetings are now taking place at the oblast's enterprises, giving a principled appraisal and holding fresh elections on the spot for the composition of trade union and party committees. It is not just a matter of renewing the apparat; the essence and style of the activities of party and trade union organizations are being radically altered. The strike has once again confirmed the need to transfer complete and total power to the soviets.

At the initiative of people's deputies and the oblast strike committee, the proposal has now been made to hold elections to the local leadership as early as November—ahead of schedule—elections, moreover, with a choice, with a contest between plans rather than the pitiful election campaign we had in past years. In this way the strike acutely posed the question of personnel—not only within the bounds of an oblast or a specific region, but essentially on a countrywide basis. A strike is too ruinous an amusement for the inflation damaged economy, and, thanks to the mechanisms of elections and glasnost, and to a realistic assessment of the work of various institutions, it is already possible, in virtually all sectors, to change the situation by nominating new, energetic, modern thinking people.

I am sure that the members of the strike committees will be voted on to the newly elected trade union committees, party committees, and town and settlement soviets. Furthermore, those people who did not falter at a difficult time and who found within themselves the courage to stand on this side of the barricades will certainly remain in the committees. We often hear that those who are not helping perestroyka will have to go. But how will they go? Where is the mechanism for determining who is to go and who is to stay? At the present time, elections are the only mechanism for making the division, and in this, after all, the votes of the workers constitute a real threat to the anti-perestroyka, conservative forces, and to the bureaucratic apparat. Moreover, they provide a real guarantee that the process of democratization and glasnost will not be deflected or stifled by embraces. [video shows Konstantinov interviewing T.G. Avaliani, chairman of the oblast strike committee—identified by caption]

[Begin Avaliani recording] The other day, people said: Teymuraz Georgiyevich, you have immense strength and scope backing you up. Leaders must always have immense strength behind them. It is the strength of those they represent—a town, or an oblast, or whatever it is that they are leading. The link with that strength must never be broken. They are then strong leaders. If they lose contact with mother earth and become out of touch so as to sever contact with mother, then they no longer constitute a force. [end recording]

Further Reported on Ethnic Unrest in Abkhaziya

Rallies Take Place 26 Jul

LD2707103489 Moscow TASS in English 1016 GMT 27 Jul 89]

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS—Some industrial plants in Sukhumi, capital of Abkhaziya, were idle on Wednesday [26 July] the USSR Interior Ministry reports. Forty-seven people were arrested for curfew violations.

Three training sub-machine guns and one small calibre rifle were stolen from a boarding school, according to its principal.

Representatives of the Abkhazian and Georgian communities met in the city on Wednesday to discuss ways of settling the inter-ethnic conflict.

Two unauthorised rallies, attended by nearly 8,000 people, took place in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, on the same day. Two hundred and twenty seven firearms were confiscated or handed in.

Casualties, Weapons Tallied

LD2607210889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1947 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 26 July. TASS correspondent Nikita Demidov reports:

According to reports from the press center of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the situation as of this morning in Abkhaziya and western Georgia has not changed and remains tense. In the past 24 hours unauthorized rallies, involving from 300 to 3,000 people, have taken place in Tbilisi, Chiatura, and Akhaltsikhe. They discussed the situation in Abkhaziya and calls for strikes were heard. In Sukhumi an explosive device was thrown into the courtyard of a house belonging to D. Dolbadze, a teacher at the Gorkiy State University in Sukhumi, in the absence of the owners. There were no

casualties. There was also an explosion in the yard of the Construction and Repairs Directorate, which resulted in damage to a goods vehicle. An investigation is being conducted into these incidents.

To date the incidents in the republic have resulted in the deaths of 18 persons, and 294 persons have been injured. Over the past 24 hours 70 people have been detained for violations of the special regime and four people for participation in mass disturbances.

In Novyy Afon a citizen of Abkhazian nationality has voluntarily handed in a Degtyarev-system manual machinegun that had previously been seized from the militarized guards of one of the bridges. All told, over the past 24 hours 199 firearms have been confiscated or handed in, a total of 5,103 since the disturbances began.

Two Explosions Heard in Sukhumi

LD2607162489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] We begin the Mayak bulletin with a report from Sukhumi. This resort town which has experienced alarming days is now assuming its habitual appearance. In the once-silent streets there is once again a great deal of motor traffic, the buses and trolleybuses are running, and one can meet vacationers. The first smiles are appearing on faces which were gloomy only recently. The sociopolitical atmosphere in Abkhaziya, which had become electric, is gradually relaxing. One gets the impression that the national mourning which has been declared in the republic has made the hotheads sober. In Sukhumi the majority of industrial enterprises and shops are functioning, the communal services are operating, and the local railway is working intensively. Twenty trains were dispatched from the station on Tuesday [25 July].

The time has now come for the party and soviet bodies in the republic to have a serious examination of people's confidence. It is an examination on which the results of finding compromise solutions will depend to a large extent. It is clear that command-administrative methods, which have compromised themselves, are entirely unapplicable in the situation that has been created, said (Chkadua) party committee secretary of the Abkhazstroy trust, in an interview for a TASS correspondent. With the aim of restoring the normal working rhythm as rapidly as possible, a small but solid group has been formed from individuals of Abkhaz and Georgian nationality, people who have not lost their capacity for a self-critical analysis of the situation or for mutual understanding. Representatives of the administration and the party committee have gone out to construction sites and to the residential microrayons.

Work has already been resumed at many construction sites. Constructive dialogue is being organized, in which the voices of representatives of both nationalities who, although they do not hold responsible posts, do enjoy authority among the population, are becoming increasingly audible.

Nevertheless, as was reported at the temporary press center of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD], the situation remains tense. During the night two explosions resounded in Sukhumi. There were no casualties in either case. An investigation is under way.

The militia and internal troops servicemen of the USSR MVD are continuing to confiscate weapons from the population. Thus, on Tuesday 128 firearms and 50 kilograms of explosives were handed in voluntarily or confiscated from the population. A total of 43 criminal cases have been instigated with regard to crimes committed during the events here.

Militia Officer Killed

PM2607190789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jul 89 Second Edition p 6

[PRAVDA special correspondent V. Chertkov dispatch: "Unease Is Not Yet Past. On the Events in Abkhaziya"]

[Text] Sukhumi, Zugdidi, 25 Jul—The whole of Georgia, from the River Psou in the west to the River Alazani in the east, is in mourning. July 25 is a day of mourning for those who died during the recent events in Abkhaziya. State flags are flying at half-mast, with black bands, and funereal music is playing on radio and television.

However, even a day like this has not been peaceful. The situation in Abkhaziya is still uneasy. I have just flown by helicopter to the city of Zugdidi, where informal associations have organized a regional committee. This is the time of the tea harvest, but there was not a soul on the plantations. They have forgotten the idea that every day counts. The peasants are being intimidated by those who are calling for a withdrawal of labor and who are currently picketing the china factory and the machine-building plant. These two enterprises in Zugdidi are on strike. The city is having problems with its electricity supply. Intercity telephone communications are poor. Attempts were made yesterday to stop stores from opening, but they were foiled.

A leaflet has appeared in Zugdidi, urging reason: "Those persons using weapons in the possession of the population for criminal purposes will be severely punished...." This was also said during my conversation with S. Lisauskas, USSR deputy minister of internal affairs.

"In Zugdidi," Stasis Genrikhovich said, "63 rifled-bore weapons have been stolen. So far, 13 firearms have been confiscated. Of the 180 criminals who have escaped from detention centers, 90 have been rendered harmless. But we are losing people. One, possibly even more, of the criminals set free by the crowd turned up in the village of Chuberi in Mestiyskiy Rayon, which is in Svanetia. The snatch squad sent there came under fire. Militia Captain F. Khvistani, father of two, was killed. Sergeant R. Giriguliani was wounded and is now in hospital."

On my return to Sukhumi, I learned that the central savings bank is still not back at work. Hundreds of people are unable to draw their pensions or savings.

According to the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] Press Center in Abkhaziya, during the last 24 hours the situation in the autonomous republic has been brought under control by subunits of USSR MVD internal forces and the militia. A number of enterprises are still not working in Sukhumi. City transport and motor transport enterprises have partially resumed work. A total of 44 buses, 6 trolleybuses, 80 taxis, and 18 vehicles from the public sanitation department have been operating. Thirty-seven trains have left the railroad station: 20 freight trains, 7 passenger trains, 2 mail and baggage trains, and 8 electric trains. From the airport 25 flights have taken 1,286 passengers, while 290 people have traveled by sea on 2 diesel boats.

In the last 24 hours, 171 firearms, including 25 combat weapons, have been either confiscated or voluntarily surrendered by the population. Internal affairs organs have instituted a total of 38 criminal cases for crimes committed during the events, and public prosecutor's office organs have instituted 13 cases.

Abkhaziya Beaches 'Deserted'

PM2607151389 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jul 89 p 1

[Untitled reports by special correspondents O. Shapovalov and Ye. Zhirnov under the rubric "For This Issue"]

[Text] The brief reports from our specialist correspondents in Georgia contain alarm and hope. In Abkhaziya, it seems, the flames of interethnic discord are dying down—there are quite a few indications of that. But things remain uneasy in Western Georgia.

Sukhumi

There is mourning in Abkhaziya. Flags trimmed with black have been hung on the streets of Sukhumi and in the autonomous republic's cities and villages. Around 15 [poltora desyatka] people have died and hundreds injured in clashes and exchanges of fire since the conflict began.

Yesterday the last of the 2,800 schoolchildren who had been vacationing at Sukhumi's young pioneer camps went home. Water, air, and rail transport are working mainly "for export." The splendid beaches are deserted at a time when they are crowded in Adler, Sochi, and further along the coast. Even though no vacationers have been affected, how can you fill the boarding houses and sanatoria again?

Subunits of USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs internal troops and the militia are monitoring the situation. The soldiers are receiving help from local residents. People are tired of living in a state of constant tension. Three days ago in Ochamchirskiy Rayon, six gangsters armed with carbines, rifles, and an assault rifle seized hostages—an old man and a child. They tried to reach the Sukhumi-Tbilisi highway by car. When that failed they abandoned the hostages and hid in the woods. Presumably these were suspects who had escaped from the Zugdidi remand detention center. Of the 174 people released by the mob on 16 July slightly more than one-half have been detained or have given themselves up. The Ochamchiri region has been blocked off by internal troops, militia, and self-defense posts.

Western Georgia

We flew by patrol helicopter to Zugdidi. There are no armed mobs, but rallies lasting many hours are going on. Party and soviet organ workers are explaining matters there.

Recent rallies have issued calls for a strike which "is to last until Georgia is granted full independence." But people are tired of the tension and the rumors. Out of 22 enterprises only 2 are striking for a second day: They are a china works and a machine building plant.

The Inguri hydroelectric power station has been seized by pickets putting forward political demands. Leaders of the Georgian Main Administration of the Power Industry went there for talks on 24 July.

In Zugdidi we met with S.G. Lisauskas, USSR deputy minister of internal affairs. He said:

"The main task is to take away the weapons in people's hands and detain all those who escaped from the remand detention center. We will be here until that is done."

Two days ago a group including one of the escapees from the remand detention center were involved in an exchange of fire in Chuberiya village in Mestiyskiy Rayon. Captain of Militia S. Khvistani was killed and Sergeant R. Giriguliani was wounded.

24 Jul Situation Reported

PM2607162389 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jul 89 First Edition p 4

[Report by TASS correspondents A. Aladinskiy and T. Dzhibuti: "So That Peace May Come to Every Home"]

[Text] Sukhumi, 24 Jul—On Sunday we met at the party oblast committee with a large group of women, many of them dressed in black.

"Mourning, what mourning there is among us," Venera Barminovna Gabelaya shakes her head sorrowfully. "Absurd, tragic deaths. Who needed them and why? We say to everyone, those we know and those we do not: Come to your senses, do not commit evil...."

Today all sensible forces are in favor of peace returning to every home here. But there are also people who are still clutching their rifle barrels. How can we help them reach a compromise—there is no task more important today in Abkhaziya, West Georgia.

The TASS correspondents asked Colonel A. Ponomarev, inspector of the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry Internal Troops Political Directorate, to describe explanatory work among the local population aimed at stabilizing the situation.

"We are seeking ways of closer collaboration between commanders, political workers, and the personnel and the leaders of labor collectives, and party, soviet and All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League organizations. We are meeting and elaborating a common policy aimed at a truce and the normalization of the city's life.

"We are having to seek forms of dialogue in unpredictable situations. There was an instance when a crowd gathered at the Red Bridge in Sukhumi and the atmosphere was heated to the limit. Officers arrived and were able to persuade and calm the excited people.

"In general we are stressing constantly and everywhere that the internal troops are here not for confrontation with anyone but to ensure the safety of all citizens of the autonomous republic irrespective of nationality. A respectful, favorably inclined attitude is being maintained toward the servicemen. The death of our comrades generated a big response: People are sincerely sympathizing over the incident. The political directorate is receiving many telephone calls expressing grief and anger and voicing proposals for perpetuating the memory of the dead."

The situation in the republic, although it remains tense, is nonetheless gradually returning to normal. Public transport has started to work, the overwhelming majority of enterprises are operating, and the stores are open. In the past 2 days no armed clashes or other serious excesses have been recorded here. The situation in the republic is controlled by subunits of the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry internal troops and by the militia.

In Sukhumskiy Rayon in an abandoned quarry near Gvandra village staffers of the rayon internal affairs department discovered and confiscated 60 kg of explosive and over 2,000 running meters of detonating fuse. The investigation into this incident is being conducted by the Abkhaz Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic prosecutor's office.

In the past 24 hours 104 guns have been confiscated (3 rifles and 101 shotguns) as have 238 kg of explosive. Throughout the autonomous republic as a whole 744 guns have been voluntarily surrendered or confiscated.

We asked Yu. Reshenik, leader of the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry temporary press service, to comment on rumors of fires as a result of which entire districts are allegedly burning. Here is what he stated: According to the figures from the fire service in all since the start of the events in the autonomous republic 18 fires have been recorded. In six cases the most likely cause is arson, in four faults in electric or gas equipment, while in the remaining cases the reasons are being ascertained. The internal affairs organs are investigating all these incidents.

Early on Sunday morning the noise of the wheels of rolling stock on the move, a noise which everyone had already forgotten, came from the railroad. And a little later the city's inhabitants joyfully told each other that they had seen the first suburban electric train with passengers. That was how the strike of the workers at the Sukhumi locomotive depot ended on the 9th day.

Every hour of stoppage at this usually lively railroad sector has cost the country dear. Of course, the entire burden of responsibility could be placed on the depot workers and locomotive drivers. But...we saw an electric locomotive which had been shot at, with broken windows and with bullet marks on its panels and we talked with the railroad engineers who had laid the rails torn up by the extremists although even with the protection and aid of servicemen they had constantly expected a perfidious shot from the bushes....

In the evening we set off for Gulripshskiy Rayon, for the pioneer camps in Agudzery, knowing of the frequent telephone calls to the party oblast committee from Moscow and Kiev: Parents are worried about their children. We arrived to see...empty buildings. On Saturday, we were told, the children had been taken to the airport and put on an aircraft. The other pioneer camps were also empty. How to explain to the children why their summer vacation had been ruined?

Adler-Samtredia Train Traffic Resumed

PM2607131189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 89 First Edition p 6

[Special correspondent V. Chertkov report under the rubric "On Events in Abkhaziya": "Days of Human Anxiety"]

[Text] Abkhaz Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic—After changes occurred in the autonomous republic's leadership Saturday [22 July], railmen resumed train traffic between Adler and Samtredia. By that time up to 100 trains had gathered on the approaches to the Transcaucasus main line, impeding the work of neighboring railroads. Wheels can again be heard crossing the joints.

The abscess had been a long time developing here. The locomotive depot workers had asked for any party oblast committee [obkom] secretary to come to them and elucidate the situation. But the dialogue did not come

off. Party links dropped out of the chain of events, and their place was, naturally, taken at once by the strike committee. The workers elected engineer M. Skhulkhiy as its chairman. B. Nikiforov, USSR deputy minister of railways, spoke highly of his qualities as a leader:

"He feels the situation, knows people, and has kept passions from flaring. It was necessary not to hold up but to let through cars holding propane and other freight—they proceeded to their destination. Although I believed and I believe now that a strike on the railroad is tantamount to a surgeon refusing to perform an operation. The autonomous republic's leadership proved deaf to the workers' demands. It was then that what had accumulated burst."

...I am looking at electric locomotive VL-8-936, fired on at Novyy Afon station and smashed by bullets. I well understand those women who gathered yesterday at the obkom. They brought with them their sorrow and concern. M. Shoniya, furniture factory worker and mother of four children, said:

"Who needs feuds? I don't. Our family has to be fed, but my husband—he is a shoemaker—and I are unemployed. And our position is alarming."

An elderly woman supported her. She was perplexed: Why should people be divided on this earth, why don't they want peace? She was echoed by her daughter, N. Chkhaidze:

"The kindergartens are empty. I am a teacher, and I am concerned about our future."

Yesterday we drove to many young pioneer camps—they are empty. The remaining schoolchildren are being taken out by air and sea.

Although public transport has started up again, manufactured goods stores have opened, and life appears to be getting under way again, the situation remains complex.

'Rogues' Still Have Firearms

PM2607125189 Moscow TRUD in Russian 25 Jul 89 p 4

[Special correspondents Yu. Petrov and O. Chikhladze report: "Abkhaziya, 24 July"]

[Text] Abkhazian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR]—An important event of the past few days was the Abkhazian Party Oblast Committee [obkom] plenum held Saturday [22 July]. The plenum relieved M.A. Tsuladze and S.R. Tarkila of their duties as party obkom secretaries.

L.Ya. Khaburzaniya, who had previously worked in the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee apparatus, was elected second secretary of the Abkhaz party obkom. The plenum elected V.D. Avidzba as party obkom secretary.

An Abkhaz Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium decree relieved O.G. Zukhbaya of his duties as chairman of the autonomous republic's Council of Ministers and V.M. Tsugba of his duties as first deputy chairman of the autonomous republic's Council of Ministers.

G.A. Anchabadze was appointed chairman of the Abkhaz Council of Ministers, and V.G. Mikamba was appointed first deputy chairman of the Abkhaz Council of Ministers.

The following day—Sunday—the corps of journalists covering events here learned that most party obkom bureau members, apart from those who had been reelected, had submitted their resignations....

The flow of reports on the events in Abkhaziya can be clearly divided into two parts. The first part contains information about attempts to normalize the situation in the region. Most stores and canteens in Sukhumi are now working, trolleybuses and taxis are running. The strike at the locomotive depot is over. Rail traffic has finally resumed. In the last 24 hours 10 passenger trains, 1 freight train, and 6 suburban trains have left, and the No 56 Moscow-Yerevan train has passed through en route to Tbilisi. Sukhumi Airport is working extended hours [v dezhurnom rezhime]. But only those with travel documents and citizens living in the Abkhaz capital or wanting to get their families out are being allowed to fly to Sukhumi from Tbilisi.

There is little consolation in the other reports. The ranks of opposed population groups continue to be equipped with large quantities of weapons, explosives, and munitions. In all, since the start of events in Abkhaziya 744 firearms have been confiscated or voluntarily surrendered, and 5,500 firearms have been seized over the same period, including 6 machineguns and dozens of assault rifles, some of which are still in the hands of rogues.

Nor are the reports from western Georgia comforting: Attempts have been made to seize weapons at the Borzhomskiy and Kedskiy Rayon Internal Affairs Departments. In Keda the attackers were arrested, but in Borzhomi they retreated when rebuffed by rayon internal affairs department staffers and then smashed the Hunters' Union store and stole munitions. As of 23 July around 70 criminal cases of attacks on militia rayon departments and other state buildings had been instituted in the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic as a whole.

Sukhumi Official Cited

PM2607125989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 6

[Report by special correspondent Vl. Arsenyev: "Abkhaziya: Awaiting Reconciliation"]

[Text] Sukhumi—More than a week has passed since the tragic events of 15 and 16 July. No one is surprised any more by the armored personnel carriers, militiamen, and soldiers of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] internal troops in bullet-proof vests and helmets. People are used to them, it seems. During the night of 23-24 July the steep streets of Sukhumi were quiet.

Life is returning to normal here. Most restaurants, cafes, canteens, food stores, and industrial goods stores are open. Trolleybuses and taxis are on the road in the city and on 23 July the locomotive depot teams ended their strike. Rail traffic has begun on lines to the east and west. Ten passenger trains and a mail and freight train have left and the electric trains are working. The Moscow to Yerevan passenger train has passed through Sukhumi station.

A normal, natural thing, you would think. But after the chaos and confusion of recent days these reports are perceived by people in the city almost as evidence of a great victory.

On 23 July I talked with Metropolitan David of Sukhumi-Abkhaziya. He considers the clash between Abkhazians and Georgians unnatural. These peoples have been linked by fraternal bonds since time immemorial. And only the evil intrigues of reactionary forces who hold nothing sacred except their own ambitions could have led to the black days of 15 and 16 July and turned the two peoples against one another.

Those events, the metropolitan told me, have specific culprits and instigators who must be exposed and punished without fail.

But that has not been done yet. In the past week and a half it has been impossible to conduct an investigation. A principled assessment of the events and of what preceded them will be provided later.

Representatives of the Armenian population have appealed to the Abkhazian and Georgian peoples for peace and calm. The Georgian mass media published an appeal to the Abkhazian and Georgian peoples from the board of the republic People's Front.

The reports of the USSR MVD and the Abkhaz Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic MVD for 23 July provided the following information: Staffers of the rayon internal affairs administration found and confiscated 60 kg of explosive and 2,150 meters of detonator fuse wire in a disused open cut mine near Gvandra village in Sukhumskiy Rayon. In the past 24 hours 104 firearms and 238 kg of explosive have been confiscated.

Vlasov Speaks at RSFSR Supreme Soviet Session

LD2707081989 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Text] The 10th session of the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet opened in Moscow today in the Great Kremlin Palace. In the presidium are Comrades Gorbachev, Vorotnikov, Ligachev, Ryzhkov, Chebrikov and Vlasov. The agenda has been confirmed. The following questions have been submitted for discussion: first, on the tasks of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] local soviet and economic bodies in increasing the production and improving the quality of consumer goods in accordance with the directives of the USSR Congress of People's Deputies; second, on endorsing the decrees of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Vlasov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, delivered a report on the first question.

Gorbachev Attends Session

LD2707080789 Moscow TASS in English 0705 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS—The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, the biggest Soviet republic with a population of almost 150 million, began a session in the Kremlin today.

The session, attended by Mikhail Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders, will discuss ways to boost production and improve the quality of consumer goods.

Deputies will also discuss decrees of the Presidium of the Russian Federation's legislature.

Unlike the USSR Supreme Soviet, which is now a full-timne legislature, the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation is an "old-time" parliament.

It was elected in February 1985 on a single-candidate basis and gathers twice a year for two or three-day sessions.

Elections to new bodies of power in constituent republics, including the Russian Federation, will be held early in 1990 on the basis of new election laws, now being discussed throughout the country.

Kazahkstan Council of Ministers Chairman Named

LD2707090389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0820 GMT 27 Jul 89

[Text] Alma-Ata, 27 July—TASS correspondent Raisa Ioffe reports:

A new chairman of the Council of Ministers of Kazakhstan was appointed today at the session of the Supreme Soviet of this Soviet republic in Asia. He is 52-year-old Uzakbay Karamanov, who previously headed the Kazakhstan State Committee for Material and Technical Supply.

A construction engineer by education, those who know him agree that he has never shut himself into narrow professional frameworks. His energetic nature, purposefulness, and great efficiency enabled him in less than 10 years to make his way from works manager of a motor vehicle enterprise of Aktyubinsk Oblast in Kazakhstan, where he started work, to director of an Alma-Ata building materials and structures combine.

All the subsequent years of Uzakbay Karamanov's career were mainly connected with the development of Kazakhstan's building industry. It is to no small degree thanks to his efforts in the post of deputy minister of construction that one of the largest- scale social programs, "Housing-91," is being successfully implemented in the republic. Now, according to statistics, rates of housing construction in Kazakhstan are among the highest in the USSR.

Karamanov's adherence to the new economic methods of management were graphically displayed in the past 2 years when he headed the republic's State Committee for Material and Technical Supply. Karamanov is one of the authors of the new concept of regional financial autonomy of the republic that has enjoyed much support from the people.

The new head of the Kazakhstan Government succeeds Nursultan Nazarbayev, elected last June as first secretary of the Central Committee of the republic's Communist Party.

People's Deputies Address Vilnius Rally

PM1007083189 Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 13 Jun 89 pp 1, 3

[ELTA correspondents R. Chesna and A. Norvayshas report: "Time of Rebirth and Hope. Rally Meeting With USSR People's Deputies in Vilnius' Vingis Park"]

[Text] It was not just Vilnius people but thousands of people from the entire republic invited by the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroyka who assembled in the capital's Vingis Park Sunday 11 June. They gathered to meet with USSR people's deputies—people on whom they had pinned their hopes and aspirations. They gathered to hear what their envoys had to say about the work of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies which has just ended and about Lithuania's future.

"Rallies of rebirth are like signposts leading us toward the great goal of Lithuanian independence," said the composer Osvaldas Balakauskas, member of the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroyka Sejm Council, opening the rally. "At the Congress of USSR People's Deputies we heard words reinforced with the confidence of the Lithuanian people."

The floor was given to Vitautas Landsbergis, USSR people's deputy and chairman of the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroyka Sejm Council.

"We followed our consciences, mindful of our mandate from the voters," he said. "Many people are asking what was the most important point. To my mind the most important success is still maturing and will only later become tangible. We took the high ground amid a huge and ill-disposed majority. We explained instead of apologizing. This was predetermined by your assistance and by the help of all Lithuanian voters, it was predetermined by the reawakened political resolve of all of us and of the Supreme Soviet. We have moved away from subservient relations with the omnipotent central authorities to qualitatively new relations of partnership.

"Partnership began in cooperation or noncooperation, protest or talks, which we plan to continue, to develop, and to learn to use. Not for nothing did a highly experienced Moscow diplomat say at the high point for our republic, when we left the auditorium: 'Lithuania must be negotiated with.' We were able to achieve this and take this stand because we were not a motley group of deputies but a united delegation of deputies. We were the envoys of the inhabitants of Lithuania, our voters. We have to preserve this status, and we will do so without fail. The task is not to dissipate our efforts in numerous special and ideological groups but to remain an integrated group of envoys from the republic. We will also have to preserve the position we have won of representing Lithuania.

"Our political platform is extremely clear—the interests of Lithuania. And, at the same time, a general democratic position. These are two inalienable aspects. And, indeed, our democratic position has become more than just a support for other democratic forces in the Soviet Union or a contribution to the de-Stalinization of the USSR that is now actually beginning. This position was indicated by Lithuania's representation and, I would say, even international representation. We have shown the world our calling card, which proves that Lithuania is ripe for a democratic form of life. This is a sign that the proclaimed ideal of a rule-of-law state has come closer in Lithuania than the proverbial speck on the horizon. I think that this political maturity is also confirmed by our desire to get out of the jungles of Stalinism, and by our legislative path of parliamentary politics and diplomatic struggle. The advocates of violence who still exist today have no excuse for resorting to it.

"Today we should remember that just 3 days separate us from 14 June, a sorrowful day of remembrance, grief, and sorrow.

"When people talk about compatriots we should understand this in the broad sense of the word. We should take it to mean not just the Lithuanian people, but all the peoples of Lithuania, since people from other ethnic groups apart from the main bulk of Lithuanians were expelled 14 June. That is why, in marking this day, we should recognize it as an international day of solidarity among prisoners. And if we are united and in solidarity, if we join in the democratization process taking place not just in the Soviet Union but in East Europe, we will become three times as strong and will definitely prevail."

Algirdas Brazauskas, USSR people's deputy and first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, took the microphone.

"I want to cordially thank the hundreds and thousands of inhabitants of Soviet Lithuania—above all, our voters of Vilnius—who literally inundated us during the Congress with telegrams and letters expressing their feelings, wishes, and hopes," he said. "This was a great help for us in our work. Moreover, it graphically demonstrated that people are actively participating in resolving those issues which are highly topical for all of us—the issues we encounter in our day-to-day lives.

"At the start of the Congress we felt somewhat isolated, but by the end we realized that we had many followers and supporters. We also realized that our thoughts, ideas, and preparations for the Congress had been understood by others—by Moscow, Leningrad, Georgia, and by certain Siberian peoples who supported and congratulated us, saying: 'The Lithuanians came knowing what they want and how to get it.'

"We were nervous, not knowing how people would react to the resolutions we had adopted at the recent Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet session. This was a confident step toward Lithuanian sovereignty. It can now be said that these resolutions have not been annulled or protested, they are in operation now.

"It is good that a parliamentary commission was set up comprising many of our deputies. It is good that in the very near future it will be preparing a law on the economic sovereignty of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, an all-union law. Thus we will be brought closer to our goal.

"Many of the telegrams we received in Moscow mentioned the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and the fateful year of 1939. We understand people's feelings and aspirations. And it is good that this commission, which includes several of our deputies, is headed by a man such as Comrade A.N. Yakovlev. We hope that in the very near future the country will finally be told just what these events were and how they should be assessed.

"We saw that there was a majority and a minority at the Congress. I saw this particularly clearly. The left wing made up the majority, while the right wing is unfortunately still in the minority. [Sentence as published] But the steps taken by our delegation were historic. Our deputies showed that even a minority has its own opinion, that this opinion can be firm and logical, and that it can be justified and brought to people's attention. Our meeting with Comrade M.S. Gorbachev and the resolution adopted almost unanimously 30 minutes later to defer the formation of the Constitutional Oversight Committee were one of those real steps when a minority is capable of great deal.

"Many of our deputies are on commissions and committees. I hope that my fellow deputies will continue to be steadfast in resolving issues in which we are greatly interested.

"Dear people of Vilnius and everyone gathered here! Human relations and respect and love for family, relatives, and compatriots should always be present among us. In this way we will become closer and kinder to each other. June 14 has been declared a Day of Mourning and Hope. Our appeal today to all inhabitants of Lithuania reminds us yet again of our nation's tragic history. How much blood has been shed, how many graves have been dug and crosses erected. And how much hope there is today. How great a resurgence of desire there has been.

"We do not need hatred or opposition, we need to take a good look around. You can see many bad examples, let's set a good example. The hope is so great. It is realistic. So let's work hard and be patient. The future will bring us a bright, free, and happy life."

The work done at the Congress by USSR people's deputies from Lithuania and the problems connected with republics' economic autonomy were discussed by Academician Eduardas Vilkas, USSR people's deputy. He stated that, as a member of the newly established Constitutional Commission, he will be doing everything for the sake of Lithuania's socioeconomic development.

USSR People's Deputy Egidiyus Klumbis shared his thoughts on the Congress.

"I believe," he said, "that common sense will prevail in Lithuania. What Roy Medvedev said at the Congress is important—it is yet another milestone on our road to independence."

The mission of Lithuanian deputies at the Congress was discussed by the writer Romas Gudaytis, USSR people's deputy.

"You were with us," he noted. "The Palace of Congresses, which had promised national freedoms and prosperity so many times and which had deceived the peoples so many times, was forced to concede that the Lithuanian envoys who dared throw a small wrench in the tried, tested, and well-oiled voting works were not just a pitiful handful or a few dozen. They were representing a sovereign state and the interests of a people who will not allow their will to be flouted."

Composer Yulyus Yuzelyunas, USSR people's deputy, talking about the grave wounds inflicted on the Lithuanian people in the past, stressed that the republic's leadership is showing a positive desire to heal those wounds. However, in its lower components—the Ministry of Internal Affairs, for instance—even requests about rehabilitation have to wait 6 months. In the speaker's opinion, the impression is being given that the authorities are ignoring government resolutions and do not want to recognize them. There is also another legally unresolved problem—the problem of people condemned for "betrayal of the motherland," "anti-Soviet propaganda," and many others against whom similar accusations are made. It is necessary to issue a republic Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on the rehabilitation of these and similar political prisoners and to give them material compensation.

USSR People's Deputy Lyaonas Kuchinskas spoke on behalf of deputies representing social organizations.

"Although there were only 58 of us deputies in Moscow, thanks to your help we felt as if there were a million of us," he said. "The other fact that helped us to win in certain oblasts was our unity. Although there are people with different views among the deputies, at decisive moments we acted unanimously."

Those present observed a minute's silence in memory of those who died in the PRC.

The strategy and tactics of the people's deputies at the Congress, and the need to resolve many questions of Lithuania's fate in collaboration with various organizations were discussed by USSR People's Deputy Myachis Laurinkus.

On behalf of those present gratitude was expressed to workers in the press, TV, and radio for their good contact with USSR people's deputies during the Congress.

Yustinas Martsinkyavichyus, USSR people's deputy and people's poet, then spoke.

"When it was suggested that I speak at the Deputies' Congress in Moscow, I realized that I should talk about the fate of democracy, the truth, and justice, since these are the primary and most topical points for all the peoples and all people; there can never be too much of them in my life or our lives," he said. "I consider the greatest enemy of democracy, truth, and justice to be an autocratic regime, dictatorship, and living in fear when you sense a constant danger of destruction and disappearance. That is why I intended to talk about the process of destabilization, with which perestroyka started throughout the country. I wanted to draw attention to the fact that for some time now this process has been halted, that Stalinism in its various forms has become asserted and camouflaged in the system of the ruling apparatus, and that the 'strong center' mentioned by everyone is nothing other than a modern version of Stalinism, which is scared to death of decentralization and utterly opposes republic economic accountability and autonomy, and freedom and independence for the peoples.

"In my speech I wanted to say that the de-Stalinization process has had almost no effect on the sphere of interethnic relations, where there has been a particular buildup of negative aspects, violence, and coercion—this is why Nagorno-Karabakh and Fergana are still bleeding, and why engineers' shovels were used on the streets of Tbilisi. Stalin lit the fire under this satanic cauldron in which, according to his theory, the 'new man' was to be forged, forgetting his native language. This cauldron is still bubbling and gurgling today. The Soviet Union still lacks the political will and state boldness to recognize the innate right of the Crimean Tatars or the Volga Germans to return to their native lands, and to condemn the 1939 Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and its secret protocols."

Yustinas Martsinkyavichyus talked about mutual aid for the peoples and the place of the Lithuanian language in life.

Talking about the difficulties encountered at the Congress, USSR People's Deputy Zigmas Vayshvila also touched upon the ecological problem, which is very topical for the republic. He reported on the events organized by the "Greens" 17 June outside the Mazheykyay Oil Processing Plant in connection with the planned expansion of the enterprise.

The role of the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroyka in the renewal process and deputies' great responsibilities were discussed by USSR People's Deputy Kazimeras Uoka.

The writer Virgiliyus Chepaytis, a member of the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroyka Sejm Council, reported that the organizers of the rally meeting had received many questions. They plan to answer them in television forum broadcasts to be held in the near future.

On behalf of the rally participants the USSR people's deputies from Lithuania and the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroyka Sejm Council sent a telegram to the PRC Government protesting the suppression by force of arms of the peaceful student demonstration. A telegram was also sent to the Uzbek people calling on them not to give

in to provocations by the enemies of perestroyka and democracy, and asking them to try to resolve their most complex problems peacefully.

USSR People's Deputy Alvidas Layus shared his thoughts on the prevailing atmosphere at the Congress—an atmosphere that was not always conducive to work. He also talked about the meetings between the deputies from Lithuania and the Congress participants, and Soviet and foreign journalists.

"The deputies from Lithuania had a clear aim and program," Vladimir Berezov, USSR people's deputy and second secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, said. "These were the problems essentially voiced at the Supreme Soviet session. They are the problems of economic autonomy and issues linked with the secret protocols to the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact—these were the main points for us at the Congress of USSR People's Deputies.

"At first many people did not understand what we were after. They realized later when they sensed our position. The Latvians, Estonians, and some of the Moldavian delegation were close to our way of thinking, and we were supported on many issues by the Georgians, Armenians, and a group of deputies from Russia. Many representatives of ethnic minorities looked to us.

"Perhaps some people expected more of the Congress," V. Berezov said in conclusion. "Indeed, there were no miracles, but the Congress was the focus for such energy, such unquenchable thirst for truth, and such spiritual suffering that people would like real change more quickly. But this can only be achieved through conscientious work."

USSR People's Deputy Kazimeras Moteka, a member of the Commission on the Secret Protocols to the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, appealed to all the meeting participants and all inhabitants of Lithuania to help find living witnesses of these events and documents linked with the 1940 decisions of the People's Sejm.

"We carried out the instruction to be unanimous," Academician Vitautas Statulyavichyus, the oldest member of the group of USSR people's deputies from Lithuania, said. "We carried out most of our plans. Many delegation members abstained from voting for the Congress resolution, since it did not adopt a decree on power. There are many good points in this resolution, but nonetheless it contains centrist tendencies and not enough effort aimed at transforming the Soviet Union into a union of genuinely free and sovereign states. Nor could we agree to the procedure for nominating deputies to the Soviet of Nationalities, since certain deputies were not elected but, to all intents and purposes, appointed to it.

"The resolution includes our proposal to start an economic experiment in 1990."

The USSR people's deputies were welcomed by representatives of the Lithuanian Women's League and the Lithuanian Foresters' Society.

On behalf of Georgian women a representative of this people gave the mother of Deputy Egidiyus Klumbis a bouquet of flowers as a sign of gratitude.

It was also reported that the "Labor" Industrial Enterprises Partnership Prize had been awarded to Professor Vitautas Landsbergis.

An appeal from the USSR deputies from Lithuania was read out protesting the behavior of an irresponsible majority of deputies toward Academician A.D. Sakharov.

A representative of the Lithuanian Democrats' Party, welcoming the deputies, proposed amending Article 6 of the Lithuanian SSR Constitution at the next session of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet.

...The rally meeting with USSR people's deputies lasted more than 2 hours. The Lithuanian national anthem was heard all over the park and Neris Valley. It was sung by everyone—young and old, by all the meeting participants. Those present chanted "Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!" to the deputies.

And so say all of us—all of us who cherish our fatherland—so says all Lithuania.

Latvian Citizenship Bill Published

LD2607125389 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Riga July 26 (Latinform-TASS)—A bill on Latvian citizenship, published in the republic for discussion today, offers a wide choice of alternative wordings of a number of clauses.

Under three different options, for example, a Soviet national, meeting all other conditions, will be granted Latvian citizenship if he has lived ten or five years in the republic or if he lives in the republic on the date of the law's entry into force.

The Latvia-wide debate will continue until September 15.

Estonian Trade Union Head on Draft Law

18280155 Moscow TRUD in Russian 13 Jul 89 p 2

[Interview with M. Pedak, chairman of the Estonian Republic Council of Trade Unions and a member of the Presidium of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, by L. Vayno, TRUD correspondent, Tallinn: "Keep Abreast of Life"]

[Text] **The trade unions of Estonia are getting ready for a congress, which it was decided to hold in December. And although the prescribed 5 years have not transpired since**

the previous congress, almost no one in the republic doubts the necessity for a close look at the activity of trade union organs, and to determine more accurately the way that trade unions can become an aggressive force for restructuring. M. Pedak, the chairman of the Estonian Republic Council of Trade Unions and member of the presidium of the AUCCTU [All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions], replies to questions by L. Vayno, a TRUD correspondent.

[Vayno] Matti Arnoldovich, rather sharp criticism was heard at a recent joint plenum of the trade unions of the republic, and there was even talk about a crisis of trade unions in their present form. Do you agree with this assessment?

[Pedak] The situation is really extremely alarming. We are threatened by the danger of lagging behind the development of society. Owing to the visibility of perestroyka, trade unions could have lasted for some time yet. But this time will inevitably come to an end. And if we do not heed the voice of the masses, and to the proposals that are coming from below, then alternative resolutions will be found. The initiative could pass into the hands of non-trade union forces, and people will join them who have lost faith in our organization.

[Vayno] What is the main cause of the criticism from below?

[Pedak] The importance of the trade union organizations is to protect the rights, interests, and health of their members. So far the rights of the trade unions have been to make statements for effect, trade union decisions were not obligatory for the administration, and they frequently remained without attention. Even those rights are not utilized that are provided in current and far from perfect legislation.

[Vayno] Similar accusations were heard at the plenum concerning high-level republic trade union organs. Even such words were heard as "submissiveness" and "lack of independence..."

[Pedak] It must be acknowledged that the Estonian Republic Council of Trade Unions, its presidium, and staff until recently obediently executed tasks from above and conscientiously put them into effect. This style of work was inherited from the period of stagnation, when conditions were lacking for a normal development of the trade union movement, when society itself was not democratic, and when the trade unions, as one of the links in the bureaucratic system, executed the directives of the party apparatus.

[Vayno] But the struggle of the party for influence in the trade unions is an axiom. Parties fight for this influence throughout the world...

[Pedak] Just so. But we have in mind a purposeful struggle of the party for political influence and the perception of this influence, and not at all obedience to the party apparatus. It is not a question of whether political influence exists, but what kind of influence it is and by what methods and means it is achieved. You see, we have had a method until recently, which, alas, became a declaration: to exercise influence through communists who work in trade unions. This in fact is the policy that the Communist Party of Estonia pursues.

[Vayno] As along as our talk has touched on the independence of Estonian trade unions, a word please about "confederated relations with the AUCCTU," which was heard in the concept adopted by the plenum.

[Pedak] I understand that the very word "confederation" can put many on guard. The question concerns the meaning that should be attached to it. We believe that different organizations should unite in solidarity, and that their activity should be coordinated on the principle of equal rights. In our view, it is necessary to conclude a contract in the AUCCTU that gives concrete expression to mutual obligations and, perhaps, would introduce appropriate addenda to the USSR Trade Union Regulations. It is possible that this is not indisputable, but I will note that with such a statement of the question we are also bound by the positions of the republic's parliament and the impending shift to cost accounting in the republic. The trade unions can proclaim themselves to be independent of the party and of any public organizations, but they cannot in any way isolate themselves from socio-political and economic reality.

[Vayno] Two alternative drafts of the Law of the Estonian SSR on Trade Unions are being reviewed by a working group. At the same time, a draft USSR law has been published "Concerning the Rights of USSR Trade Unions." Voices have been heard saying that in such a case there is no need for a republic law...

[Pedak] We are confident that there is a need. Under conditions of regional cost accounting, we must have our own law on trade unions, inasmuch as the socioeconomic system of the Estonian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic], in the first place, will manage republic organs of state authority and administration on the basis of legislation of the republic. Both the regulations and the structure of the trade unions must take the peculiarities of the republic into account.

As for the all-union draft law, it needs serious additional work, if not reworking, because in many ways, in our view, it reflects the concept of the "governmentalization" of trade unions, going back to those times when it was thought that trade unions should share responsibility for the fulfillment of industrial, economic, cultural, and dozens of other tasks. In general, it is not entirely clear how trade union organs differ from state organs. The opinion exists up to the present time that production work, educating the workers, and protecting their

rights are equivalent trade union questions. But trade unions cannot play the role of jack of all trades in all areas of social life. The main purpose will inevitably suffer from this.

[Vayno] And what do you think the main purpose is?

[Pedak] I have already said: representation and protection of the interests of the workers. This work is so immense that it should become the substance of all of our practical activity.

[Vayno] The cause is worth, as the saying goes, rolling up one's sleeves and getting down to work. But where should one begin?

[Pedak] One of the first tasks is the regulation of labor relations. It must become far more flexible. We see a guarantee in the reform of labor legislation, which has to be accomplished in the near term. Here the trade unions have a real opportunity to avail themselves of the right of legislative initiative. We also see the application of this reform in the area of cutting work time and lengthening leaves. To build up the necessary resources, we must immediately develop and introduce legislative, economic, contractual, and other measures for putting pressure on state and economic organs to provide the kinds of conditions and organization of production that would facilitate the use of worker time for creative and productive labor. It is also necessary to change the entire system of payment of labor.

It is also time to bring labor disputes within the scope of intelligible legislation. The constitutional equality of all workers is a necessity in this situation. Life has also confirmed the absolute necessity for legislative regulation of the procedure for examining collective labor disputes. If strikes or work stoppages are a reality, then we should not in any way resort to a policy of "burying our heads in the sand." At the initiative of the council of trade unions of the republic, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR included the development of an appropriate law in its plan for the completion of legislation for the current year.

[Vayno] An interesting picture is developing. On the one hand, trade unions welcome the adoption in the republic of a law on cost accounting and the associated shift of state and economic authority to the republic, and, on the other hand, they are preparing to meet this authority with a toughening of their position. Are there not contradictions here?

[Pedak] There are no contradictions here. We are supporting republic cost accounting, inasmuch as we are counting on an increase in the workers' standard of living. And we will resolutely oppose any violation of their rights, no matter what the nationality is of the bureaucrat who issued it. For it is clear that a local bureaucrat is no better than a Moscow bureaucrat.

[Vayno] In that case, how is one to understand the points of the adopted program of action of the Estonian Republic Council of Trade Unions according to which part of the usual rights of trade unions are delegated to the government of the republic? I have in mind work safety measures and social insurance.

[Pedak] Well, you see, it is bad that in the whole country and here in our republic there is still no state organ that organizes and coordinates the activity of work safety measures and which also implements state supervision of all questions relating to labor safety. By the way, this kind of an organ existed in the USSR until 1933, and it exists in a majority of Western countries up to the present time. This kind of an organ is necessary, because the state cannot fulfill its constitutional obligations without it—and, consequently, to be concerned about improving conditions and work safety. The situation is approximately the same with social insurance: Excessive centralization did not enable taking local conditions and needs into account. In addition, social insurance essentially was always a state and not a trade union task. But we do not intend to stand aside. On the contrary, we will be able to concentrate better on the absolutely simple position of protecting the interests of the workers.

[Vayno] The central theme of our conversation was the protective functions of trade unions. The means were also named: legislation, organizational initiative, and the restructuring of the trade unions themselves. What other arsenals can trade unions resort to while protecting the rights of the workers and representing them?

[Pedak] The field of activity is really immense. We are now preparing for the forthcoming elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet. The trade unions must certainly achieve their full- fledged representation in these organs of authority. Whom to nominate, how to support candidates, what kind of a platform to come out with—we are thinking about all of this right now.

Estonian Environment Group Stages Protest

LD2607111689 Riga in Latvian to Europe 2000 GMT 25 Jul 89

[Text] Environment Protection Club members and sympathizers gathered today at the Sloka cellulose combine to protest the plant's activities. Militia departments closed the entrances to the works.

After an address by Arvids Ulme, president of the Environment Club, everyone went to the main gate. A talk with (?Igors Kuks), head of the Jurmala Internal Affairs Department, was held there. The two sides participating in the talks were of the same opinion. (?Kuks) also supported the closure of the combine. However, in reply to our correspondent Viktors Rudzitis' question about how the militia will act if the protestors block road or rail transport by lying down on the road or rails, the head of the Internal Affairs Department could only reply: Let's wait and see.

The protestors did indeed block transportation. At 1800 they stopped the first truck that tried to enter the combine. Later, a flatcar was placed by the gate, which barred the way to any vehicles.

The Environment Protection Club's action is continuing.

Article Assesses Ethnic Strife in Moldavia

AU0507191089 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 1 Jul 89 p 4

[Vladimir Jancura article: "How To Ward Off the Threat of Schism; What Is Happening in Moldavia"]

[Excerpts] (From our Moscow correspondent)—It is necessary to travel to Kishinev personally, and not to rely on press reports. I interpreted the words of Aleksandr Mokanu, chairman of the Moldavian Parliament, in this way after his speech at a discussion of the USSR Congress of People's Deputies.

"Recently, many of the central newspapers have been paying particular attention to our republic," he said from the congress platform. "Almost all the articles can be characterized by one sentence—oh dear, what is actually going on in Moldavia! It could be assumed that they want to help. But whom? Some authors divide the republic into two parts: on one side of the barricade, the people, on the other, the leadership. Is this likely to help stabilize the complicated situation?" [passage omitted]

At times at Kishinev market I felt as if I were at Bratislava central market. [passage omitted] Only wine and the grilled sausage stands were missing. The republic produces a quarter of the vines out of the overall production of the Soviet Union. However, even in this vine growing region the draconian nationwide measures of the anti-alcohol policy are valid. [passage omitted]

It is enough to look at the food outlets in state retail trade. On the shelves at the butcher's is the same "poverty" that can also be seen in other big Soviet cities. However, the half-empty shelves in the Kishinev "greengrocers" shocked me. In the middle of the season! Also it became obvious that far from every citizen of Kishinev can afford to go shopping at the market. Where has the fruit of the fertile Modavian fields and orchards disappeared to? I set out for the town hall and the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] State Planning Committee with this question.

Answer: A great part of the republic's yield continues to be handed over to USSR central funds. For example, this year it will be one million tonnes of fruit and vines. Yes, Moldavian kolkhozes and sovkhozes can sell up to a third of their planned production and all of the production which exceeds the plan at the agreed prices. By doing this they would saturate the republic's internal market, but local trade and the poor budget of the local soviets up till now are not sufficient to meet the prices which the fruit and vegetable growers demand. And so it is more advantageous for them to sell across the Moldavian border where more is paid.

I admit that at first I sought the reasons for the Moldavian "flashpoints of tension," in particular in the socioeconomic sphere: in the definite disharmony in relations between the city and village, industry and agriculture, and the developed north and the relatively backward south of the republic. Much of this working hypothesis was indeed confirmed. But reality is much more complicated.

The at first glance invisible demarcation line, which is dividing the local population more and more, can be discerned right in the center of Kishinev by a stranger.

There is a park close to the government buildings, the so-called Alley of Classics. Every evening, groups of young people gather around the statues of the national awakeners. [passage omitted]

The young students are passionately discussing something. What? Mostly the problems of Moldavian schools and the Moldavian language. But also relations between the nations and nationalities living in the republic, about their histories and their future.

The tone of these seemingly academic discussions is set by leaders of the so-called Popular Front of Moldavia. At the same time, in other parts of Kishinev supporters of the so-called Unity International Front are gathering. They are also debating the same thing, but they very often come to the opposite conclusion from their opponents in the "Alley of Classics." In the first group Moldavian can be heard, in the second Russian.

"Both fronts are not divided by barricades, but rather they still have not found a common language." These are the words of Ion Grosu, secretary of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee.

Until recently, Comrade Grosu was the mayor of Kishinev and now, in the party Central Committee, he heads perhaps the most difficult section—ideological work. In our conversation he admitted that the managerial organs of the Moldavian SSR reacted rather belatedly to the processes of the awakening of the national consciousness and thus they handed the initiative over to various informal associations. Only at the end of last year when the sparks of national disputes were beginning to flare up, did the leadership of the Moldavian party organization work out a new political platform and gradually go onto the offensive. At the prompting of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee, in spring of this year the republic's supreme soviet prepared a series of bills which are to raise Moldavian to the level of a state language and guarantee its transition into Latin script (up till now cyrillics have been used).

"We gave permission to our activists," continued Comrade Grosu, "to become involved in the activity of both the popular and of the international fronts, although both organizations are still not officially registered. From party members we demand that they gradually eliminate the nationalistic and extremist tendencies within them and, on the contrary, support all the constructive things and everything that can contribute to restructuring."

Kishinev is a city of 700,000 people. And it is nationally very mixed, just like the other big cities of all the Soviet republics. Extremists in the "fronts" would like to divide it into two parts: into pure Moldavian- and Russian-language areas. Can this be successful in a situation when each Kishinev citizen has mastered the Russian language well, but when few of the local Russians and Ukrainians—who make up half the population—can make themselves understood in Moldavian?

"We will ward off the threat of a schism," Vladimir Dobria [name as published], chairman of the executive committee of the city soviet, emphasized for me in an interview, "if we return to the Leninist principles of national policy and resolve the most difficult socioeconomic problems facing Kishinev as quickly as possible."

But today this two-fold task urgently confronts the entire country of the Soviets....

Republic's KGB Units Examine Past Repression

LD0707145389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1140 GMT 7 Jul 89

[Text] Minsk, 7 July (TASS)—The work, which is huge in scale and complexity, connected with the rehabilitation of the victims of the 1930's, 1940's, and the early 1950's in Belorussia is now one of the main focuses of the activities of many of the services of the republic's KGB. Sergey Mochalov, a senior official of the republic's KGB, speaks about this in an interview published today in SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA.

We have certain experience in restoring the good name of people who suffered during the Stalinist period, he says. In 1954 the KGB started reviewing the cases of those who had been repressed without foundation, and it returned from nonexistence hundreds of names of state, military, and public figures of the republic. The work has gained a genuinely wide scope in the period of restructuring and glasnost. Now investigations of each of the thousands of the applications received by the KGB have finished. The cases have been handed over to the judicial bodies.

One of the latest examples of the difficult but essential work in this direction was the investigation into the facts of the mass shootings in the forest area of the (Kuropata) near Minsk. The conclusion of the lawyers and experts is the same: the remains of thousands of Soviet citizens shot without trial or investigation in the prewar years rest here.

In the interview, it is emphasized that officials from the Belorussian KGB consider this to be their mission not so much as a professional duty but as a civilian one that the public's support is helping them to fulfill. A study of the documents for the period in question is continuing so that not one of the victims of the tragic lawless past will remain forgotten.

Kishinev, 7 Jul (TASS)——Since the beginning of the present year alone, over 7,000 inhabitants of Moldavia who were repressed during the years of Stalin's personality cult have been rehablitated on the basis of conclusions that the Moldavian KGB submitted to the procuracy of this republic in the southwest of the USSR. Almost 2,000 of them were rehabilitated posthumously. The newspaper SOVIETSKAYA MOLDAVIA reported this in a [word indistinct] article based on conversations with KGB workers in the republic.

The newspaper reports in detail of the great work of lawyers and other KGB specialists in Moldavia on the rehabilitation of groundlessly repressed persons. It was stepped up particularly after the decision of the CPSU Central Committee "on additional measures on the reestablishment of justice toward the victims of repressions which took place in the thirties, forties, and early fifties" was adopted on 6 January.

The results of the investigation, the newspaper notes, once again confirm the fact that the machine of Stalinist repression did not spare any category of the population, nation, or ethnic group in Moldavia. In restoring the good name to those who were groundlessly repressed in the years of Stalinism, the law enforcement bodies clearly separate from the innocent sufferers traitors of the homeland, Nazi criminals, participants in punitive and bandit units, and also persons guilty of falsifying criminal cases.

The staff of the republic's KGB sharply condemns the trampling of the law and of human rights that was allowed in the past, and it favors the adoption of measures that will not allow the repetition of anything like it in the future.

TRUD Examines Tajik-Kirghiz Border Tension

PM2407081389 Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 Jul 89 p 4

[Own correspondent V. Zakhvatov report under the rubric "Reporting Details": "Time To Clear Away the Rocks"]

[Text] Dushanbe—Intensive talks were held for a long time at the point where the Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic's [SSR] Leninabad Oblast and the Kirghiz SSR's Osh

Oblast meet between party and state leaders from the two republics, representatives of local soviets, and elders from the Tajik village of Oktyabr and the Kirghiz village of Smarakandyk. The conflict between residents of these two settlements over land and water resources, rooted in the distant past, had become exacerbated...

For a number of reasons, residents of the Tajik village were forbidden by their neighbors to take their sheep and cows to pasture in the mountains on the Kirghiz side in the future. In response to this, residents of Oktyabr Village blocked with rocks the Matchoi Canal, which runs through their territory and supplies drinking and irrigation water to Samarkandyk and the lands of the sovkhoz named for Lenin's birth centenary, in Batkenskiy Rayon, Kirghiz SSR.

It has to be said that the village of Oktyabr is overpopulated and there is virtually no prospect of its expanding. There are people living there who remember that a little over 20 years ago the former leaders of the Tajik "Ittifok" sovkhoz transferred over 140 hectares of undeveloped land to the Kirghiz side, in addition to 40 hectares that the Samarkandyk people themselves "assimilated" for household plots. Their arable land and orchards are requiring more and more water, which can only come from the Matchoi interrepublican canal from Tajikistan.

The situation got worse at the end of April. And toward the end of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies, telegrams were sent to Moscow from both rayons. They said that the events were becoming a threat and the top people in both republics needed to be there. The arrival of Tajik Communist Party Central Committee First Secretary K.M. Makhkamov and Kirghiz SSR Council of Ministers Chairman A.D. Dzhumagulov stabilized the situation, but, as it happened, only for a while.

From the stenographic record: "My name is Sharof Tuychiyev and I used to work at the mine in Shurab, but now I am retired. I have six children—two daughters and four sons. We live together on a few 'hundredths' [of a hectare]. The neighbor on my right, Abdugafur Yusupov, has five 'hundredths' and eight children. And people like us are in a majority in the village of Oktyabr..."

Sharof Tuychiyev and many of his fellow villagers, together with their wives and children, were throwing rocks into the Machoi Canal, which their ancestors had built, in plain sight of cameras and despite the appeals of personnel from the Isfara City Soviet Executive Committee. Mother-heroine Oilarmokh Negmatov was busy breaking rocks with the men.

From the stenographic record: "We live on and feed ourselves from 10 'hundredths,' my older sons are young men now, but they are forced to live with us—there is nowhere else," O. Negmatova said. "People were throwing rocks into the canal in desperation. What are we supposed to do? It is summer, but the cow is still in the shed—there is nowhere for it to graze. Yes, I admit that we were hoping to attract attention to our plight..."

The village of Samarkandyk is also up in arms. Asankan Akmatov, chief agronomist at the sovkhoz named for the centenary of Lenin's birth in Batkenskiy Rayon, Kirghiz SSR, a Tajik (nothing surprising in this, since there is a mixture of Tajiks and Kirghizes in both villages), showed me a report on current and expected losses. But what was far worse was to see with my own eyes the apricot orchards with the ground littered with green fruit, hundreds of hectares of parched wheat, alfalfa, corn, and tobacco, without water from the canal. But is it possible to measure the damage caused to relations between people?

Another incident. The chairman of the local village council was trying to reason with an excited mob of people from the Tajik village of Oktyabr. One young villager hit him on the head with an iron bar. The chairman is now in the hospital. Egged on by several extremist-minded fellow locals, the entire population threw rocks into the Machoi Canal. A group of young Tajiks attacked a militia patrol, intending to seize their firearms.

Several hundred villagers frm Vorukh and Oktyabr in Tajikistan had descended on the village of Samarkandyk, but they were met with a volley of shots from hunting rifles.

Around 30 people have already been injured on the two sides. The tension has eased somewhat as a result of the introduction of a curfew. Tajik and Kirghiz villages are being patrolled by internal forces' subunits.

In an interview for your TRUD correspondent, Tajik Communist Party Central Committee First Secretary K.M. Makhkamov said:

"This year we agreed to make dozens of hectares of irrigated arable available for the individual housing construction, and, as a result, the tension has eased in several kolkhozes in the republic. The solution of the problem of resurrecting abandoned villages in mountain areas, where there are patches of land of between 5-25 hectares, is in the pipeline. But here, on the border with Kirghizia, a compromise has not yet been reached, although talks have been going on for nearly 3 months. And this has caused the situation to deteriorate..."

In fact, extremist-minded people have taken advantage of the problem of employment and housing, which is an acute one for many families. They are preventing a proper search for possible compromises. But this in no way diminishes the responsibility of those who failed to take prompt action to see to people's economioc and

social needs, which are the cause of the explosive conflict. Only in a calm, thoughtful atmosphere is it possible to find a solution that is acceptable to everyone—disturbances, let alone attempts on people's lives, do not help matters.

Passions have now subsided somewhat. The canal has been completely cleared of rocks. Water is flowing along it to the lands of the sovkhoz named for the centenary of Lenin's birth.

Tajikstan Mud Slides Cause Destruction

LD2607154689 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] A strong landslide is reported to have hit some places in the central Asian republic of Tajikistan. Slide mud and rock have caused considerable destruction. Prior warning helped avoid loss of life although there are reports of injuries.

Formation of Ukraine People's Movement Viewed

LD1407205189 Kiev in English to North America 2330 GMT 6 Jul 89

["Ukraine Today" program, presented by Serge Griniuk]

[Excerpts) [Griniuk] We'd like to continue the program with a commentary by our observer, and I pass the microphone to Oleksiy Hubenko:

[Hubenko] Ukraine's political horizon has been augmented with a new entity, the People's Movement for Perestroyka. Although discussions around the formation of the movement, its program and charter, had been going on for a long time, only on the 1st day of July its first regional chapter was formally organized. The movement's organizers started with Kiev region, notably because in Kiev, or, to be precise, at the Writers' Union of the Ukraine, the idea of the movement was conceived, and its initiating nucleus was formed.

What caused the rise of this organization? The movement's advocates claim the reasons are a dissatisfaction with the pace of reform and a desire to spur the creative potential of the masses. As for the opponents of the movement, of which there are quite a few among the party apparatus and other public organizations, they view the movement as a structure alternative to the party that would assume control and would lead to confrontation. In any case this is the idea the movement's opponents have been trying to get across in the numerous newspaper articles, radio and television programs, and in public presentations.

The verdicts were quite wide-ranging, from parallels with Poland's Solidarity and popular fronts of the Baltic republics, to the quite comical questions like: Why do we need the movement if there is the party?

All these discussions, however, whether interesting as such, had a tint of scholastic argument. In any case, that idea was expressed many times in the letters of rank-and-file citizens to the mass media. Perhaps we shouldn't explain the nihilism of this type by the people's political myopia. After all, the people have serious reasons to worry that the movement's rising activeness, even if it doesn't replace one power structure with another, might nevertheless bring about a certain social and ethnic tension. Coupled with a crisis in the economy, it is primarily the rank-and-file citizens who would suffer from this tension. It is exactly the rank-and-file citizens that both the proponents and opponents of the movement appeal to. It is to them that the movement's program in the area of the economy and ethnic relations is addressed, just as the criticisms of this program.

Well, let us hear how one rank-and-file citizen, a worker from Chernihiv, Vasyl Derevyanchuk, sees this issue.

[Begin Derevyanchuk recording in Ukrainian fading into English translation] [Passage omitted] The reforms started by the program supported within the Communist Party have brought into the light of Soviet society hitherto unknown things as pluralism and tolerance. It's good that in the case of the People's Movement of Ukraine these notions have been used, although not in full measure and not at all stages. It is also good that the Communist Party of Ukraine chose dialogue with the movement and managed to avoid the mistakes of the Communist Party of Belorussia, which did not veer from the road of confrontation in opposing a similar grass-roots movement. The ideology moguls in the Ukraine also understood that the movement is a fact, and it cannot be simply disregarded. [end recording]

[Hubenko] Here's the view on this score of People's Deputy Valeriy Grishchuk.

[Begin Grishchuk recording in Ukrainian fading into English translation] [Passage omitted] As a result of such a dialogue the initiators of the People's Movement have reconsidered some provisions of their program. As you see, both sides displayed flexibility. Hopefully, the dialogue with the People's Movement of Ukraine will continue in that spirit, and hopefuly the responsibility for the future of perestroyka, rather than political ambitions or emotions, would serve as a road map for the movement participants. After all, much is at stake—it's the future of the nation. [end recording]

Kishinev Organs Act on June Demonstrations

PM2107104589 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 4 Jul 89 p 4

[Unattributed report: "At Kishinev City Party Committee Bureau and City Soviet Executive Committee"]

[Text] A joint enlarged session of Kishinev City Party Committee [gorkom] Bureau and City Soviet Executive Committee [gorispolkom] was held 30 June. The session examined a number of questions, including the sociopolitical situation in the city in connection with the events of 25 and 28 June.

The party gorkom bureau and the gorispolkom pointed out that the events of recent days connected with the preparations for and the celebration of the 49th anniversary of Bessarabia's liberation and reunification with the USSR led to a sharp exacerbation of the sociopolitical situation in the capital.

At a rally held by the Moldavian People's Front 25 June—in addition to a correct illumination of the period of Stalinist lawlessness and calls to perpetuate the memory of the victims of repression, for their full rehabilitation, and for the elimination of "blanks" in the history of the Moldavian people—many tendentious and one-sided judgments and assessments of the events of 1812, 1918, and 1940 were expressed, and there was a manifest desire to foist onto those present anti-Russian sentiments and opinions on the need to revise documents and agreements in accordance with which the present borders and the political and economic system of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] took shape. Doubt was groundlessly cast on the republic government's ability to actively carry out restructuring. The majority of the speakers assumed the right to speak on behalf of the entire Moldavian people.

The rally organizers included many Communists, although none of them dealt a proper rebuff to those who tried in their speeches to discredit the party and its role in society and in restructuring.

A logical sequel to the rally was the 28 June unsanctioned march through the city's central streets by a large group of people under the slogan "The celebration of 28 June is a shameful act for the Moldavian people." The demonstrators' illegal actions essentially wrecked the holding of festive measures in 28 June Street and a concert in the "Oktombriye" Palace devoted to Bessarabia's reunification with the USSR.

The city's working people express indignation at the fact that the participants in these actions are trying to shake the traditional foundations of the friendship of the peoples, to fan interethnic strife, and to sow mistrust of the Moldavian SSR's socialist experience. The emotional charge of rallies and street processions with tricolor flags, dubious slogans, and inflammatory appeals is being transferred to labor collectives, still further exacerbating the sociopolitical situation, diverting people's time and effort away from fulfilling the plans outlined for socioeconomic development, and creating favorable conditions for the spread of politically harmful and dangerous rumors and fabrications.

On this basis people are becoming divided along ethnic lines in a number of collectives, and nationalist and chauvinist sentiments are being manifested—which gives rise to uncertainty in a section of the population and fear for the future.

The party gorkom bureau and the gorispolkom regard as critical the sociopolitical situation which has taken shape. The events of 25 and 28 June showed very clearly that party committees and organizations and soviet organs are not in full control of the situation in the city and in a whole number of labor collectives, are slow to formulate effective measures to stabilize it, and are unable under democratic conditions to persuade people and to channel their energy constructively toward fulfilling the tasks of restructuring. Communists who support actions incompatible with the requirements of the CPSU program and statutes are still not being called sufficiently to account.

All this is a consequence of the fact that the city's party committees and soviet organs have not formulated a unified action system providing for the anticipation and elimination of negative trends in sociopolitical processes. An adverse effect is caused by the habit of relying on instructions or recommendations from above—which frequently leads to the erosion of positions, indecisiveness, and lack of initiative.

Obsolete approaches and the desire to work only with the permanent aktiv are being eradicated from ideological activity inadmissibly slowly. Here the fact that the present sociopolitical situation demands a constant well-reasoned dialogue with various kinds of "action groups" and individual forms of persuading people who have come under the influence of negative propaganda or who are simply going astray is obviously being overlooked.

During the discussion and elaboration of measures to fulfill the decisions of the 13th Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum it proved impossible to halt the process of the growing complexity of the sociopolitical situation, to improve it radically, or to find a way out of the impasses which have formed on the way to renewing all aspects of life in the city by consolidating all forces to implement positive restructuring processes.

Law-enforcement organs are not taking active measures with regard to certain groups of people who are constantly organizing all sorts of demonstrations, marches, and pickets on an essentially illegal basis.

The party gorkom bureau and the gorispolkom resolve:

1. The attempts by individual groups and persons to exploit rallies, marches, and demonstrations to destabilize the sociopolitical situation in the city and to fan enmity and mistrust among people—which harms the friendship of the USSR's peoples—are to be resolutely condemned.

The dubious interpretation of the well-known events of 1918 and 1940 which was heard at the 25 June rally is to be regarded as politically harmful and contrary to the appeal by the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee, the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the republic's government.

Rayon party committees [raykoms] are to be charged with assessing Communists whose actions contradict the party's policy, program, and statutes.

Account is to be taken of the fact that the city's law-enforcement organs have instituted criminal proceedings and are conducting an investigation into acts of hooliganism and the gross violation of public order.

It is deemed unacceptable to resolve the problems and contradictions which have accumulated in the city and the republic by means of confrontation, fueling tension, and violating legality and law and order. A constructive dialogue, tolerance of the opponent's opinion, and truly scientific reasoning are the only correct and real way to remove tension from relations among people and to resolve economic, social, and spiritual tasks.

2. Party raykoms, primary party organizations, and soviet organs are to be obliged to really develop political work on fulfilling the decisions of the 13th Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum and the 3d Kishinev Party Gorkom Plenum and to deal a resolute rebuff to all who push people into disturbances, try deliberately to turn democracy into dissoluteness, and use the slogans of restructuring to assert group, egoistic interests.

3. Comrade V.M. Stratulat, secretary of the party gorkom, and the gorkom ideological department (Comrade K.N. Cheban) are to improve the study and forecasting of public opinion and actively influence its shaping.

Ideological cadres are to be called more to account for the standard and substance of mass political work with people. The dialogue with representatives of self-motivating formations is to be widened, constructively channeling their actions.

The professional standard of party and ideological cadres is to be raised. The ability to champion the party line in a well-reasoned manner in public discussions, at rallies, and at other mass measures, to deal a resolute rebuff to demagogues, and to convincingly expose the true aims of extremist groupings is to be fostered in them.

The party aktiv and the population are to be regularly briefed on the development of political events in the city and on progress in resolving the problems that arise.

The Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee is to be asked to create an authoritative commission to study and prepare conclusions connected with the main historical landmarks in the life of the Moldavian people since 1812, to ensure public control over its work, and to widely inform the masses.

3. [as published] Communist leaders of the city's law-enforcement organs are to draw very serious conclusions from the events which occurred and take urgent measures to bring to light and institute the proceedings laid down by law against the extremists who organized the wrecking of the celebrations in the city and the unsanctioned march. With a view to preventing similar actions in the future, the effectiveness of preventive work is to be enhanced, attempts by organizers and firebrands to push people into illegal actions are to be stopped in good time, and every lawbreaker must feel the force of the law.

4. The editorial boards of the newspaper VECHERNIY KISHINEV and of city radio broadcasting are to delve deeply into the processes of the democratization of society and the tactics and actions of informal movements and reflect their activity objectively, comprehensively, and promptly. Asserting pluralism of views, public opinion is to be channeled toward supporting the party's course and renewing sociopolitical life in all spheres. Thematic discussions are to be organized among city folk on the most urgent problems of the reinstatement and rehabilitation of historical memory, of strengthening the friendship of the peoples on a new basis, and of fostering in people political culture and respect for and strict observance of the Constitutions of the USSR and the Moldavian SSR and the existing laws and norms of public order.

Leaders of party, soviet, and economic organs are to make regular analyses of the sociopolitical situation in the press and on radio and television, and this is to be considered their party duty, a manifestation of their party and civic stance, and a very important means of improving the situation.

Temporary Dwellings Distributed in Armenia

NC0607095889 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 5 Jul 89

[Text] Yerevan, 5 Jul (ARMENPRES)—Acting on the proposal of the USSR Council of Ministers to provide temporary shelter to citizens in the earthquake-stricken area until housing facilities are restored or built, 31,000 trailers have been allocated to the people. In addition, the republic's enterprises are preparing 22,000 wooden dwellings, which should be ready soon.

Taking into consideration the urgency of the problem and its practical implementation, the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers has distributed temporary dwellings among the cities and rayons. The government has also instructed that the trailers and wooden dwellings are to be ready by December complete with a communal services network.

The republic's government has endorsed the proposal of the Armenian SSR State Planning Committee and of the Armenian trade unions council to distribute 382 vehicles to the quake-stricken cities and rayons. It was indicated in the decision that 100 of these vehicles are being

allocated in accordance with established procedure for injured veterans of the Great Patriotic War and Afghanistan who are living in the cities and rayons of the disaster zone.

Lawyers Roundtable Examines Ethnic Relations

PM0607130989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jun 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Academic Lawyers' Roundtable"]

[Text] "State Law Aspects of Interethnic Relations in the USSR" was the theme of a roundtable held yesterday at the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of State and Law in Moscow. Academic lawyers from Moscow, Georgia, Latvia, Turkmenia, Bashkiria, and other republics and autonomous oblasts participated in it.

A report was delivered by B.N. Topornin, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and director of the Institute of State and Law.

Chebrikov Tours Lipetsk Metallurgical Combine

LD0707074189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 06 Jul 89

[from the "Vremya' newscast; report from Libetsk Oblast by correspondent L. Maksimov]

[Text] Comrade Chebrikov is in Lipetsk Oblast. Viktor Mikhaylovich assigned his whole day today to becoming acquainted with Novyy Lipetsk Metallurgical combine. Here, as they so like to say, metal is created. On the way from one workshop to another it changes its qualities, characteristics, purpose, and even its name. But the beginning is here in the blast-furnace production unit. This fiery river is the start of the pig-iron. In the first half of the year 40,000 tonnes of above-plan pig-iron were produced, then the converter produces steel—any type of steel according to the order, even a novelty, cinescope steel, for us television viewers. Metallurgical production is impressive and beautiful, but there are shortcomings—first and foremost environmental pollution.

The secretary of the party Central Committee was told that the combine has spent over R9 million on natural protection, most of it on the capital overhaul of old systems. [Video shows Chebrikov being shown around the metallurgical workshops]

Amidst the metallurgical workshops, right here at the combine, there is a preserved corner—a lake with swan. Here there are over 90 species of birds, 20 of which have been entered in the Red Book of endangered species]. They are alive and are even producing offspring. [Video shows lake and birds including a peacock] Someone joked that probably they simply do not know that there is an annual fallout of over 1,000 kilograms of harmful substances per capita of the population in Lipetsk.

There are many problems. Viktor Mikhaylovich Chebrikov had a frank talk with the workers of the combine about these problems. [Video shows Chebrikov talking with workers]

However restructuring is making itself felt in production and in the life of the metallurgical workers. Here is a workshop at the combine were fish are bred and fattened for the collective. The fish even include sturgeons. [Video shows fish tank]

In the evening Viktor Mikhaylovich Chebrikov had a meeting with representatives of the work collectives. The first congress of people's deputies that has been held, the Central Committee secretary said, provided much material for thought and analysis and, what is most important, the need to augment one's work and not to lag behind the processes that are becoming ever deeper in society and to unite more closely party work with local soviet work. Afterwards, Viktor Mikhaylovich answered the questions of those present. [Video shows Chebrikov addressing meeting]

Results of Merger of Ministries Examined

18200418Z Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 14 Jul 89 p 1

[TASS correspondent S. Turanov report, special for SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA: "When Ministries Merge"]

[Text] Moscow—In contrast to the famous "house of Bulgakov" on Sadovoy, at No 27 Kalinin Prospect not just people but entire organizations are disappearing. This is now the second institution that was based there which this year is coming to the end of its existence. Following the administration for the USSR State Agro-industrial Committee, the "demise" of the Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy has occurred; it has been merged with the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy to form the new USSR Ministry of Metallurgy.

The mood among the "nonferrous" people is far from festive for they are not facing the simple merging of the ministries. It will be accompanied by quite substantial reductions of their apparatuses. No one knows exactly what kind of reductions; it has not been officially announced. Just various rumors are being circulated.

The associate with whom I talked in the corridor (she asked me not to mention her name) reported quite confidently that "we have done virtually no work in our department for 2 months, waiting for the cutbacks and discussing the various possibilities."

People are also worried in the building on Nogin Square where the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy is located. First and foremost it concerns pensioners and workers with inadequate qualifications. Accordingly, to judge from everything, the upcoming reorganization will take place with more "bloodletting" than the earlier one.

Yes, a great deal of human emotion is connected with the breakup of the present management system. At this "indeterminate time" many of their own problems are of more concern to them than production matters.

Opinions differ on the future reorganization. The deputy chief of the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy Main Scientific and Technical Administration Yu. Kotlyar and other leading experts fear that the creation of the new ministry will lead to the formation of gigantic supermonopolies that will be virtually impossible to manage, that the extensive products lists for small-series production of nonferrous metals will be diluted in the enormous volume of iron and steel. And if the sector "loses its appearance" then this will lead to lower rates of scientific and technical progress.

Of course, any reorganization is painful. But the thinking is that there is no cause for panic yet. Arguments against the merging of the ministries are justified only from the standpoint of yesterday, when the administrative-command system flourished.

The merging of the ministries is taking place under the aegis of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy. Speaking in the USSR Supreme Soviet the minister, S. Kolpakov, firmly asserted his adherence to economic methods in management. The metalworkers already have experience of this kind of approach to the organization of production. A mining cooperative complex was recently created in the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy operating on the basis of contractual relations with the labor collectives in the subsector. The new management structure itself earns money for its content. Mining enterprises are paying them on a voluntary basis for services rendered. As a result, the former main administration is now no longer a parasite in the state budget.

The course that has been set is the right one. Today the main thing is not to waste time moving from side to side but to move things forward.

World Church Council Ends 10-Day Meeting

LD2607193389 Moscow TASS in English 1447 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—The Central Committee of the World Council of Churches [WCC] ended a ten-day meeting here today after naming a group to make proposals for a "programmatic reorganisation" of the WCC to meet new challenges in the run-up to its forthcoming 7th assembly in Canberra, Australia, in 1991.

The 150 or so Central Committee members also conducted a regular review of WCC programmes and discussed issues of biotechnology, poverty, mission and health, as well as world crises.

Interspersed throughout the meeting, the third in a European socialist country, was exposure to church affairs in the USSR, particularly in the context of Soviet perestroyka.

New opportunities associated with the reform drive were mentioned by each of the representatives of the WCC's six Soviet members—Baptist, Estonian and Latvian Lutheran, and Russian, Armenian, and Georgian Orthodox—when they introduced their life and work to the conferees.

At a reception in the Kremlin, Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov paid tribute to "religious believers and clergy" for their support for "the course for a radical renewal for Soviet society" and put a high value on WCC emphasis on peace efforts.

In its various statements, the committee welcomed progress towards greater cooperation among nations, renewed calls for an international peace conference on the Middle East and urged an immediate end to hostilities in Lebanon. It also expressed itself for a more active campaign against apartheid.

The first-time guests at the meeting included a delegation of the Korean Christians Federation from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The committee adopted a special statement on Korean reunification, saying that it should be carried out through a process of democratic participation by all Koreans, without outside interference.

The committee gave its approval in principle for launching an ecumenical news service in the early 1990s, in cooperation with other ecumenical and confessional organisations.

The committee is to hold another meeting next March.

Text of Ryzhkov Address

PM2607141189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Kremlin Reception"]

[Excerpt] The Soviet Government gave a reception in the Georgiyevskiy Hall of the Great Kremlin Palace 21 July in honor of the participants in the World Council of Churches Central Committee session which is taking place in Moscow.

N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, greeted the prominent religious figures.

N.I. Ryzhkov's Speech

Esteemed participants in the World Council of Churches Central Committee session!

Esteemed Guests!

First of all I would like to warmly welcome the authoritative representatives of Christian churches and religious organizations from many countries of the world, meeting in Moscow for the first time for a session of the Central Committee of a major international ecumenical organization—the World Council of Churches. The fact that this session is being held in the capital of the Soviet Union can only be regarded as one of the manifestations of the great changes which are taking place in the life of our society.

These changes have also affected relations between the state and the church. We have every reason to claim that these relations are developing normally today. This is quite natural because, in their majority, the clergy and believers are patriots of their country who support perestroyka and the new approaches to state-church relations in the conditions of socialist renewal and democratization. As M.S. Gorbachev correctly noted, we share a common history, one fatherland, and one future.

I am confident that both believers and nonbelievers are united in their attitude to noble moral and ethical ideals, and that they are equally striving to translate universal human aspirations into reality.

A radical, all-embracing perestroyka is under way in our country in order to eliminate everything that is alien to the nature of socialism and give it back its original humane meaning. Profound social and economic transformations are under way, our statehood, the entire political system, and social relations are being improved. We speak openly about the difficult periods in our history, analyze the causes of distortions, and create guarantees to rule out their repetition either in the present or the future.

Naturally, a fundamental dismantling of an old system, and the firm establishment of a new one, never proceed smoothly or with ease. The main thing today is consistently and unswervingly to steer the course toward renewal and concrete efforts to humanize all spheres of society's life, and to avoid retreating in the face of arising difficulties or temporary failures.

Universal support for the perestroyka which is being implemented on a genuinely democratic basis was demonstrated by the elections of USSR people's deputies, their first Congress, and the USSR Supreme Soviet session, which have done much to help fully unfold the tremendous potential inherent in the socialist social system.

Along with the supreme organ of state power, the entire Soviet people are currently passing through a great school of politics. People are trying in all manner of ways to participate in the elaboration of decisions pertaining to state matters and their implementation. However, apart from this extremely essential aspect of our work, there is another which is no less important for all of us: Every person, all social groups, and the people as a whole are undergoing most valuable schooling in learning mutual understanding, tolerance, respect for other people's opinions, pluralism, and engaging in a quest for sensible compromise solutions. This is what makes it possible to pool the efforts of people of different world outlooks and persuasions, people of different nationalities, for the sake of common interests.

We duly appreciate the work of our clergy aimed at the consolidation of society which is so badly needed now, at instilling mutual respect in people and developing the humanist principles in our life. We are aware that believers and the clergy support the course toward a radical renewal of Soviet society, toward improving peoples lives and firmly establishing the principles of social justice and a pure moral atmosphere.

A modern rule-of-law socialist state is being created in our country. Work is under way on the draft of a most important legislative act—the law on freedom of conscience and religious organizations.

This document is being compiled in the light of new approaches to state-church relations which are in keeping with the spirit and nature of perestroyka and the democratization of Soviet society. The new law will be designed to legally ensure citizens' right to freedom of conscience and to create conditions which will enable believers to fully participate in the life of society and its renewal. The draft law takes account of international document standards accepted by the United Nations and also of the Final Document of the Vienna meeting. It will be submitted for nationwide discussion.

In the new conditions favorable opportunities are opening up for the church to augment its contribution to the firm establishment of universal human moral and ethical standards of conduct and the instilling of a sense of civic duty and Soviet patriotism. We hope that the church and believers will play an even more active part in combating antisocial phenomena such as drunkenness and alcoholism, hooliganism and crime, and extremist and nationalist excesses. We are prepared to cooperate with the church more extensively in the preservation of historical monuments and of the cultural heritage of the peoples of the USSR. The churches' participation in voluntary funds, and especially the Peace Fund, the V.I. Lenin Children's Fund, and the Charity Fund for Assisting the Aged and Disabled, is evoking profound respect.

A key sphere of our joint efforts is our participation in the protection of the environment. Here there is much scope for efforts on the part of any Soviet citizen, atheist or believer, as well as on the part of the state and the church.

The Soviet Government views with respect the church's peace-making efforts, its participation in the struggle for disarmament, for a nuclear-free and nonviolent world,

and for international cooperation. Ever since the new thinking began to take root in world politics the process of the humanization of international relations has been gathering momentum.

The situation wherein ideological and philosophical differences made it difficult, and sometimes impossible, to conduct a constructive dialogue with many foreign partners is receding into the past. Obsolete stereotypes, which were somehow flawed from the outset, have been discarded. The priority of universal human values as the decisive criterion in foreign policy is assuming paramount importance. The rejection of the enemy image as an integral attribute of the humanization of international relations has assumed the shape of real steps in the sphere of disarmament, especially nuclear and chemical disarmament, and the lowering of military confrontation.

It goes without saying that in order to achieve a genuine improvement in interstate relations quite a few acute problems remain to be resolved. They include ridding mankind of hunger, disease, enormous contrasts between the life of rich and poor countries, and ecological and other problems affecting all mankind, and the elimination of all forms of inequality, racism, and regional conflicts.

In current conditions foreign policy is not just the task of governments and official diplomacy. The role of the public, of people's diplomacy, has increased immeasurably. Their efforts are merging in a single stream which is being guided into the channel of mankind's all-around progress. The church is making a great contribution to this noble cause.

The motto of your meeting is "Peace, Justice, and Integrity of Creation." The fact that your work is permeated with humanist ideals and that it is proceeding in a fruitful direction is only to be welcomed.

May your efforts serve the good of present and future generations of all the world's peoples! [passage omitted]

Komsomol Central Committee Outlines Plenum Agenda

PM0607152989 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jun 89 p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League (Komsomol) Central Committee Bureau"]

[Text] **The Komsomol Central Committee Bureau has examined the question of the Komsomol Central Committee Eighth Plenum.** The need for the prompt and thorough elaboration of the draft documents for the forthcoming plenum was stressed. Alternative approaches to the establishment of the agenda and materials for the report were discussed.

It was decided to convene the Komsomol Central Committee Eighth Plenum 28 July 1989 and to recommend the following plenum agenda:

1. On the situation in the Komsomol.

2. On the activity of the Bureau and the Secretariat of the Komsomol Central Committee since the 20th Komsomol Congress.

3. On the 21st Komsomol Congress.

4. Organizational questions.

5. Any other business.

There was a report on the results of the 22d Lithuanian Komsomol Congress. In view of the fundamental significance of the decisions adopted by the congress and the congress proposal to the Komsomol Central Committee to discuss the principle of mutual relations with the Lithuanian Komsomol, the Bureau proposed that this question be examined at the Komsomol Central Committee Eighth Plenum.

The results of Komsomol organizations' participation in the elections of USSR people's deputies were summarized. Discussion centered on the strong and weak aspects of the Komsomol's participation in the pre-election campaigning. Note was taken of the active stance of many Komsomol deputies at the Congress of People's Deputies, which secured the election of young people to the USSR Supreme Soviet, the creation and membership of the USSR Supreme Soviet Youth Affairs Committee, and the support by the majority of people's deputies for the idea of a state youth policy and a Law on Young People.

Bearing in mind that the theme of young people was somewhat obscured at the Congress by other major political and economic problems, Komsomol deputies sought the inclusion in the Congress resolution of a recommendation to prepare a report on the position of young people in society for discussion at the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Despite the overall reduction in young people's representation in the supreme organ of state power, opportunities for exercising the Komsomol's legislative initiative have increased considerably. The pre-election campaigning helped to highlight who the real leaders of young people are and to actively involve them in Komsomol organizations' activity.

The Komsomol Central Committee Bureau supported the submission of amendments to the USSR Law "On Elections of USSR People's Deputies" and issued an instruction to prepare proposals for the USSR Supreme

Soviet Presidium. Komsomol committees have been instructed to take active part in the discussion of draft laws on elections of people's deputies from union and autonomous republics.

The Komsomol Central Committee Bureau noted the passivity of a number of Komsomol committees as a result of which in 67 kray and oblast organizations Komsomol organizations did not exercise the right to nominate candidate deputies. There was resolute disagreement with the position of individual party committees, including in Amur, Semipalatinsk, Chelyabinsk, and a number of other oblasts, which opposed the nomination of young candidate deputies and the organization of their pre-election campaigning.

The role of the youth mass media in supporting Komsomol deputies was noted, as was the need for their closer cooperation with Komsomol committees, deputies' groups, and candidate deputies in the forthcoming election campaign.

The Komsomol Central Committee Bureau formed a small working apparatus in accordance with the Komsomol Central Committee Sixth Plenum's decision on helping USSR people's deputies from the Komsomol.

The apparatus' tasks include the preparation and holding of consultations with USSR people's deputies from the Komsomol, organizing the work of a permanent deputies' reception center in Moscow, maintaining cooperation with social organizations and state organs in the elaboration of youth policy, assistance in organizing expert scrutiny of legislative acts and organizing temporary creative collectives from among young lawyers, economists, sociologists, and so forth.

The Komsomol Central Committee Bureau examined the question "On the Structure and Staffs of the Apparatus of the Komsomol Central Auditing Commission." Aware of the need, in conditions of the democratization of life within the Komsomol, to step up monitoring by Komsomol members of the activity of elected Komsomol organs and their monitoring, in turn, of the work of the apparatus, the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau considered it necessary to discuss this question at the Komsomol Central Committee Plenum and adopt a decision which takes account of the opinion of all members of the central elected organs of the Komsomol and Komsomol organizations.

Evacuation in Radioactive Narodichi Rayon Planned

LD2007145489 Kiev in Ukrainian to Europe 1700 GMT 15 Jul 89

[Text] A group of scientists from the radiobiology council of the USSR Academy of Sciences who travelled through Narodichi Rayon, Zhitomor Oblast, have returned to their base. Correspondent Ihor Kulinichenko met with Dmitriy Hrodzinskyy, well known radiobiologist, correspondent member of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Academy of Sciences.

[Begin recording] [Hrodzinskyy] I was profoundly impressed. Our visit started with a call to a farm where all the workers were very agitated. They showed us abnormal animals born at this farm. It was scary indeed to see those monstrous-looking piglets and calves. We saw them all at close range. Some of them are alive; others are preserved in transparent vessels.

Naturally, we listened with great concern to the thoughts expressed to us by people working there. They told us that nothing like this had ever occured there prior to 1987. And the question arises: What is going to happen next?

[Kulinichenko] What is your view on all this as a radiobiologist?

[Hrodzinskyy] I can only work with facts and draw an analogy to what is already known in radiobiology concerning places with increased radioactivity. There is no doubt that Narodichi Rayon is badly polluted with radioactive substances, of which Cesium-137 and Cesium-134 predominate, as well as other radionuclides. Apart from this, we have no knowledge on the radiation dosages received by the population in the 1st hours and days following the breakdown. More precise dose metering was lacking immediately after the breakdown. But what we already know tells us that the population of this region should be evacuated. Even more so, because the increasing tendency of various illnesses in the rayon is becoming notable. I myself am in favor of such an evacuation.

[Kulinichenko] It is planned to evacuate in 1989-92 all inhabitants of 14 localities. Preparations are already in hand for such evacuation. [end recording]

Public Feeling Runs High Over Nuclear Dump

PM0607105189 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jun 89 p 1

[Report by own correspondent Nikolay Savelyev under the rubric "Regular Daily Spot": "Commission Is Here for 1 Hour But We..."]

[Text] Krasnoyarsk—There's no telling where a newspaper article will lead. After the publication of "Tunneling Under the Yenisey" (see KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA for 15 June), events in Krasnoyarsk developed rapidly. First there was a flood of phone calls, then unauthorized rallies in various parts of the city. Credit where it's due here—the militia did not hinder the staging of the rallies. Virtually every large organization sent a letter to the government. In 3 days 60,000 people signed an appeal-cum-protest on the city's streets. Almost daily the kray party newspaper has been carrying front-page reports on construction site No 27 under a

special rubric. Each day there have been special broadcasts of the television program "The Environment and Us" and the city soviet executive committee [ispolkom] has been in extraordinary session. By public demand an action group has been set up, including your correspondent in addition to people's deputies and scientists.

Under public pressure the veil of secrecy is being lifted a little on this installation intended for the burial of nuclear power station waste from Europe. Apparently the choice and inspection of the land for the construction of site No 27 were carried out by a State Commission chaired by N.F. Tatarchuk (former chairman of the kray ispolkom) on the instructions of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Council of Ministers of 4 March 1975. But only on 21 March 1984, on the basis of the findings of the investigation and scientific and technical studies, was permission given for the underground disposal of liquid toxic industrial waste on behalf of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources. It turns out that they chose a site and began work and then produced a conclusion on the correctness of their choice 9 years later.

This, unfortunately, is not the first or by any means the last instance of lack of coordination concerning a secret installation. Of the R150 million intended for the construction of a transport line more than R25 million have been used. The cost of the waste processing plant itself is not mentioned anywhere, all that is known is that it is being built at a rapid pace and will be the largest in the world. (The same old style: the biggest, the most unusual—N.S.). The conclusion of the kray commission which worked here recently is alarming: "However, the solutions envisaged in the project do not completely rule out discharges of toxic substances into the atmosphere during accidents.... In quantities causing environmental pollution." After KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA's article, the Ministry of Medium Machine Building sent a large group of specialists from the Ministry of Health, the USSR Academy of Sciences Physical Chemistry Institute, and a number of other academic institutes to Krasnoyarsk. There was a press conference at the kray ispolkom lasting 4 ½ hours. For 4 ½ hours the specialists tried to persuade journalists and representatives of the public that they have nothing to fear. They failed.

The main argument against which the newcomers had nothing to offer was this: Where, in what country do they have such a radioactive waste burial ground which combines two absurd solutions. Namely, proximity to a city of 1 million people and the digging of a tunnel under a huge river. If it is so safe why not build it somewhere in the Moscow region, thus reducing the delivery distance from Europe. But this is unprecedented in world practice. They showed us charts which featured a geological lens entirely colored blue running under the burial site. That means that it is surrounded by running water above and below. What will happen to those waters under excess pressure and what will happen to the waste in 30-100 years' time?

Extreme concern and anxiety were expressed by scientists from the USSR Academy of Sciences Siberian Department and Krasnoyarsk geologists. According to the biologists' figures, the adjacent population centers will be left without drinking water. Rural dwellers will be categorically prohibited from drilling wells.

At times the press conference was reminiscent of a scientific council session where the discussion consisted entirely of equations and definitions. At times emotions erupted across the kray: "But why does Krasnoyarsk need a burial dump at all? Do we really export so little timber, gold, and fur? And now we have to take Europe's waste back."

"It is very possible that we will not receive waste from Europe," the opponents replied. "At the ministry they are saying that we should only process waste from our own stations." Nevertheless, this was a dispute between two completely different camps. One would complete its assignment and return to Moscow, the other would have to live, work, and raise its children here in Krasnoyarsk.

The disputes and protracted discussions were ended by V.I. Sergiyenko, chairman of the kray ispolkom: "There is a proposal here to hold a referendum on site No 27. But I already know what its outcome will be. There is just one answer: The people do not want a burial site here. People were frightened by Chernobyl, and I understand their concern. I also live here, I was elected to this post and to be a people's deputy by people from this area like me. That is why I must serve their interests first of all. I take the responsibility of stating that Soviet power in the shape of the krayispolkom is opposed to this installation. Furthermore, we shall work for the immediate cessation of construction. I shall report that to the Council of Ministers."

Everyone clapped Sergiyenko on the back. Everyone except the outside delegation, that is.

Servicemen Help Fight Sakhalin Fires

PM0507131389 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jun 89 First Edition p 1

[Report by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA own correspondent Colonel B. Karpov under the rubric "Incidents": "North Sakhalin on Fire"]

[Text] No rain fell at all in north Sakhalin in late spring. The dry weather, unusual for this time of year, turned the taiga into a vast fire hazard. "Be careful with fire!" the mass media repeatedly urged people. This was also said at enterprises and institutions. But the appeals had no effect. At the beginning of June forest fires broke out in the taiga because people were careless. Soon there were more than 10 of them.

The situation is now very complex. Strong winds are carrying the fire across the taiga. The people of Sakhalin have devoted a lot of energy and equipment to fighting

the blaze. But their efforts have proved unequal to the task. Whereas some 28,000 hectares of forest were destroyed by fire in the whole of last year, more than 200,000 hectares of taiga have already been turned into ash so far this year. The inhabitants of dozens of population centers are facing the threat of evacuation. Fire fighting specialists from Moscow, Magadan, Novosibirsk, and other cities and regions of the country have flown in to help the people of Sakhalin.

"As is usually the case in emergencies, servicemen from the Far East are providing substantial assistance in fighting the fire," Colonel General V. Novozhilov, troop commander of the Far East Military District, said. "An operations group led by Colonel A. Bobritskiy has been set up on Sakhalin. It is working in close contact with the Emergency Fire Fighting Commission attached to the Sakhalin Oblast Soviet Executive Committee."

But even before the operations group was set up, military subunits stationed in north Sakhalin were brought in to fight the fire. Members of the radar company under the command of Captain V. Dolgintsev experienced the most savage onslaught from the elements. The rapid progress of the flames was intensified by gusts of wind. Company personnel were able to put out the fire approaching their combat equipment by using sand, water, and foam extinguishers. They threw all their efforts—the subunit at the taiga garrison has only several dozen men—into protecting the barracks, service premises, and depots. But the servicemen were unable to save the residential quarters of officers and warrant officers. Houses in which people in the far north usually live are now being brought from the mainland.

Before the special equipment arrived, servicemen led by Lieutenant Colonel M. Dmitriyev, Lieutenant Colonel V. Vorobyev, and Major A. Agafonkin began fighting the fire with the aid of portable extinguishers. A group of servicemen led by Senior Lieutenant P. Balitskiy and Senior Lieutenant A. Yadryshnikov entered the struggle against the taiga misfortune in one of the most dangerous areas.

On instructions from the Oblast Emergency Fire Fighting Commission, the rayon civil defense headquarters is directing servicemen to fulfill operational tasks. One group of servicemen is on a state of alert: Should the wind change direction, they will fly by helicopter to the areas around the Okha-Komsomolsk-na-Amure oil and gas pipelines are located. The fight against the fire is continuing.

Economic

Finance Minister Cited on New Financial System

LD2607203289 Moscow TASS in English 1513 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—"The principal task of today is to pass over from arbitrary decisions to a scientifically substantiated redistribution of financial means to maximise the economic and financial benefit, USSR Finance Minister Valentin Pavlov said in an interview with the newspaper "GOVERNMENT HERALD".

The new minister intends to concentrate on drastically new areas to get away from costwise financing and credits operations, to master cost-accounting techniques as a matter of urgency thus achieving greater returns on every rouble invested, and to accelerate capital turnover by stimulating socialist commodity and money relations.

The minister thinks it is necessary to effectively free the financial relations between the centre and hinterland. One can no longer postpone a restructuring of the entire system of taxation, based on equal distribution and societally justified norms, the minister said.

Conversion No Guarantee of Quality Goods

PM2707104189 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jul 89 First Edition p 2

[Interview with V.I. Smyslov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, by Major I. Ivanyuk: "Military Production for the National Economy"; date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] [Ivanyuk] Valentin Ivanovich, the fact that the conversion of military production coincided with economic reform in our country is probably another sign of the times....

[Smyslov] I first want to point out that conversion represents the practical implementation of the principles of the new political thinking. Our state's active peace-loving policy is creating conditions for our country's defense capability to be guaranteed with less expenditure, on the principles of reasonable sufficiency. The resources released can be channeled into the resolution of urgent economic tasks. That is, a certain proportion of the defense industry can really be converted to the production of the requisite nonmilitary output and consumer goods.

I must say that, as a whole, the range of tasks which conversion will make it possible to resolve is considerably broader. These include both a certain reduction in the state budget deficit and an improvement in the material and technical provisioning of the nonproduction sphere, primarily the health service. There is also an opportunity to boost the technological level of "peaceful" sectors of the national economy and design potential earmarked for the elaboration of new types of nonmilitary output.

Conversion in our country assumed a practical character right after the conclusion of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, which ensured a reduction in military production in 1988 and, consequently, a reduction in appropriations to the USSR Defense Ministry for procurement of military hardware.

As is well known, the scale of the reduction in military spending on defense for the next 2 years—14 percent—has currently been determined. This was taken into consideration during the elaboration of the draft state plan for the country's economic and social development for 1989 and is also being taken into consideration during the preparation of the draft plan for next year.

[Ivanyuk] Please, could you talk in more detail about this plan. In which main areas is it being elaborated?

[Smyslov] First, we are acting on the basis of the need to implement conversion without halting production. That is, while the manufacture of arms and military hardware is being scaled down, production of high-quality nonmilitary output and consumer goods must be stepped up.

Conversion will help saturate the market with nonmilitary output, of which the national economy has an acute need. I include industrial equipment for agro-industrial complex processing sectors, equipment for light industry, and also equipment for trade and public catering enterprises in this category of output which is in such short supply. In other words, it is a question of ensuring that the conversion in defense sectors of industry becomes a substantial component in the structural perestroyka of the national economy and the economic mechanism.

Naturally, there will be fundamental changes in investment policy. Whereas the plan for the current 5-year period envisaged channeling approximately one-half of the overall volume of capital investments allocated for production construction in defense sectors into the development of capacities for nonmilitary equipment, a considerable increase in the amount of capital investments for the reconstruction and modernization of capacities will now be needed in order to implement the tasks of increasing production of nonmilitary output. Accordingly, the growth rates for the various types of output will differ by a factor of 4.5-5, so that these proportions (40 and 60 percent) will be "reversed" in defense sectors.

The State Plan for Conversion, now being elaborated, does not just provide for a change in the structure of production. Questions of the active incorporation of the released scientific and technical potential from the defense complex in the creation of new science-intensive types of output in priority areas and the effective use of qualified cadres and material and technical resources must also be examined and resolved. In other words, every opportunity for increasing consumer goods production must be assessed. This plan will also provide for the released military equipment to be transferred to the national economy.

Special attention will be devoted to solving questions which arise regarding enterprises where conversion takes place on a large scale. I am talking about the need to clarify plan and economic normatives, retrain individual categories of workers, and train them in new professions in order to provide them with guaranteed employment and other social questions.

[Ivanyuk] What is your opinion of the prospects for defense sectors' contribution, in the light of conversion, to the saturation of the country's internal market with goods which are at present in short supply?

[Smyslov] In the light of conversion defense sectors will produce consumer goods worth in excess of R140 billion in this 5-year plan period, which represents R10 billion in excess of the previously planned volume. A considerable increase in the production of such goods is envisaged for the 13th 5-year plan. For instance, production of televisions, refrigerators, washing machines, sewing machines, electric vacuum cleaners, and video recorders will reach 15 million (80 percent color televisions), 9.8 million, 7.2 million, 3.5 million, 7 million, and 2 million respectively.

This will enable the foreseeable demand for consumer durables—televisions, refrigerators, tape recorders—to be met by the end of the 13th 5-year plan and by 1992 for radios.

[Ivanyuk] Valentin Ivanovich, in connection with your answer, I have the following question. Defense industry enterprises are now manufacturing a considerable quantity of consumer durables. But the quality of these goods does not always satisfy the consumer. Won't the program you have outlined just become another "gross output" drive to the detriment of quality? Especially since a great deal will now depend on deliveries from related nonmilitary sectors, which are lagging behind considerably.

[Smyslov] What can I say on this subject? The technical standards of a number of goods do indeed not always accord with consumer demand. It will take considerable efforts to raise those standards. On the other hand, broad opportunities are opening up for doing this. For instance, according to our estimates, a certain number of design forces will be released at research institutes and design bureaus working on defense projects; this will enable them to be involved in resolving the tasks of raising the technical standards of consumer goods. I must say that this is a difficult process since people must be reeducated, but we do not have time for that, and a great deal will have to be done on the move. Your fear that a quantitative increase in consumer goods will conflict with quality cannot be dismissed today. The Law "On the Quality of Output and Defense of the Rights of the Consumer," which is currently being examined, must provide guarantees of the appropriate standards in manufactured goods.

As for related nonmilitary sectors, of course, production volume and the quality of the components depends on them to a considerable extent. Primarily on machine-building enterprises and the chemicals and timber complex.

I assume that these questions are being given constant attention by the standing bodies of the USSR Council of Ministers and the USSR State Planning Commission.

[Ivanyuk] In a number of cases switching defense industries to new tasks also involves the radical reconstruction of production. At the same time a considerable proportion of capacities may be used to manufacture nonmilitary output which corresponds to the enterprise profile without special expenditure.

[Smyslov] Of course, that is only how it should be. Suffice it to say that in the 13th 5-Year Plan, for instance, the volume of nonmilitary shipbuilding will increase 50 percent. New factory ships, trawlers, and cargo ships will be created for fishermen along with timber carriers and ships with horizontal freight handling for the USSR Ministry of the Maritime Fleet.

New, high-economy Il-96-300, Tu-204, and Il-114 aircraft will fly the Aeroflot flag. Deliveries of nonmilitary aviation equipment as a whole will more than double. This could not happen were it not for conversion.

[Ivanyuk] This is all, so to speak, in the immediate future. What is being done to look to the technological "future"?

[Smyslov] The retooling of sectors operating directly for people's needs, I would say, holds center stage in the plan for conversion. This is reflected both in the economic development indicators for the next 5-year plan and in the draft concept and the main guidelines for the country's future economic and social development.

Using defense complex research and experimental-design organizations, it is planned to develop more than 5,000 named brands of modern industrial equipment meeting world requirements, including equipment for agro-industrial complex processing sectors.

Special attention will be devoted to creating a base to manufacture high-tech medical equipment: diagnostic equipment, various instruments, prosthetic equipment, and individual transportation for invalids. In the 13th 5-Year Plan production of medical equipment will increase by 150 percent—which will, we hope, enable a most acute social problem to be dismissed.

Machines and equipment are also being developed for light industry. Thus, one missile design bureau collective is creating a range of flat knitting machines, including the "Lyubava" industrial model and the "Severyanka" home machine, which correspond with the best world models. A collective from one weapons science-and-production association is developing an entire range of 27 overstitching and seaming sewing machines.

We have now begun to study proposals regarding the program to convert the defense complex's scientific and technical potential in the sphere of materials and technology. More than 80 types of the latest materials—including composites and ceramics along with metals and alloys with special properties, polymers and highly pure substances—more than 2,000 advanced technological processes, and more than 100 progressive designs will have been transferred to the nonmilitary sphere by 1995.

[Ivanyuk] Some of these substances are certainly linked not only with the defense industry but also with the peaceful use of space.

[Smyslov] Of course, the use of space technology for the needs of the national economy will be given a new boost. This also includes conversion in a broad sense. Space-based navigation systems, in particular, will be improved, enabling deep-sea ships and aircraft to obtain prompt and highly-accurate information about their position. Space systems will be used more extensively in appraising the environmental situation on the country's territory.

The implementation of the "Buran" program, which the whole world acknowledged as a revolutionary breakthrough for Soviet science and technology, really confirmed that significant results can only be achieved via fundamental and investigative research. Maximum use in the national economy of the answers found in the course of this program may largely compensate for the creation of a system where 100 new materials, 240 new technological processes, 130 models of state-of-the-art equipment, and 440 technical designs protected by certificates of invention were created in the course of its development

That work has already begun.

[Ivanyuk] Another question which is worrying many KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers: Won't all this make an impact on the quality of the military equipment reaching the troops and won't conversion affect the country's defense capability?

[Smyslov] In accordance with the new defensive doctrine the package of our military-technical programs must be revised; the implementation of these programs will enable our tasks to be resolved with a smaller quantity of more effective systems.

The whole structure of the arsenal must be clarified, while bearing in mind above all the priority future development of arms systems and military equipment which ensures a qualitative increase in the effectiveness of the Armed Forces such as, for instance, the automation of command and control along with detection and early-warning systems that rule out sudden hostilities on the part of an adversary.

Correspondingly, proceeding on the principle of reasonable sufficiency, conventional strike arms must be substantially reduced. Such as strike aviation, tanks, artillery, and their munitions, and assault and landing systems. There are plans to reduce a number of surface-launched and sea-launched strategic offensive arms.

These substantial reductions are tending to reduce the proportion of military expenditure in the country's gross national product, which will somewhat reduce the strain on the state budget.

Despite the broadening of the defense complex's involvement in resolving the tasks of developing the production of nonmilitary output and consumer goods, the defense complex's main task still consists in creating sophisticated new types of arms and military equipment, guaranteeing that the USSR Armed Forces can effectively perform their defensive tasks under contemporary conditions.

Agricultural

Harvest Successes Reported in Rostov, Saratov

PM2507120989

[Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 July 1989 Second Edition front-pages under the headline "Two Million Sold!" an own correspondent report datelined Rostov-na-Donu, 21 July, which contains the following information: "Don collective and state farms have sold 2 million tonnes of grain to the state." "Quite a few farms achieved average yields of 40-50 quintals of grain per hectare. Sales of strong and valuable wheats have considerably increased. Farmers have dispatched more than 390,000 tonnes strong grain to elevators instead of the planned 130,000. More that 1,120,000 tonnes of valuable wheats have been sold."

This report is followed by a TASS report under the headline "Threshing Completed" which is datelined Saratov, 21 July, and reads: "Machine operators in Krasnokutskiy, Sovetskiy, and Yershovskiy Rayons have completed threshing of winter grain. They have gathered 24-28 quintals of grain per hectare, which is almost three times more than last year."

Military

Shishkin on Countering SDI, Maintaining Parity

LD2607180189 Moscow TASS in English 1737 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—"Even with a 50 per cent cut in strategic weapons, the main goal of our ministry is still to retain the defence parity, to ensure the asymmetric option for countering SDI and to prevent the militarisation of outer space," Soviet minister of general engineering told the "GOVERNMENT HERALD" newspaper.

Oleg Shishkin reminded that his ministry deals with designing and developing space missiles technology. Special significance is attached to the workmanship and reliability of missile and space complexes.

The minister said that two thirds of research and development today is linked with military technology. By 1995 its share will be reduced to 55 per cent. The second half of the branch's potential will be geared to civilian production. The ministry is already responsible for manufacturing equipment for food industry.

Asked if in its development the ministry took account of the growing interest of foreign partners in peaceful space researc[illegible], Oleg Shishkin said, "of course, the international 'space market' has its specific features. This is primarily high risk connected with the complex and unique nature of projects. However, the fact that state international organisations, TV networks and large private companies are increasingly often enlisting our services is quite meaningful. It is expected that by the year 2000 more than 160 countries will become customers of the international 'space market' with the deals estimated at hundreds of billions of dollars. We have to occupy a worthy place at this market."

Yazov, Lizichev Address Construction Unit Chiefs

PM2607144789 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jul 89 First Edition p 2

["Our Correspondent" report: "Restructuring Style and Methods"]

[Text] A 2-day rally was held in Moscow at the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army for the chiefs of military-construction unit political departments. It opened with a speech by Army General D. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister. Army General A. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, delivered a report "On Further Restructuring the Style and Methods of Work of Military-Construction Units' Political Organs as Organs of Political Leadership."

The results of the rally were summed up by Colonel General N. Kovalenko, chief of the Military-Construction Units Political Directorate.

V. Namestnikov and V. Navoznov, senior CPSU Central Committee workers, and V. Fedosov, a senior worker from the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, took part in the work of the rally.

Defense Minister Yazov Interviewed on Army

AU2607115289 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 25 Jul 89 p 7

[Interview with USSR Defense Minister, Army General Dimitriy Yazov, by NOVOSTI commentator Vladimir Ostrovskiy: "Glasnost Consolidates Security"—place and date not given]

[Text] After Army General Dimitriy Yazov beat back the "attacks" of deputies and held his ground in a parliamentary "battle"—he remained USSR minister of defense—he still had to withstand another onslaught: questions posed by Vladimir Ostrovskiy, commentator

of the Soviet NOVOSTI news agency. It cannot be said that the general had found himself in a mine field, but, without a doubt, he had to "defuse" several questions.

[Ostrovskiy] Deputy V. Kiseleva, worker and toolmaker, claimed that some soldiers had fired their weapon only seven times during their basic military service. Did she not reveal, like other deputies in the course of your hearing, secrets the Army wanted to conceal?

[Yazov] However, she did not say how many times they had missed the target. However, if we are to have a serious talk with substance, then let us, for example, discuss the tank crews that conduct combat firing only twice during their service. Unfortunately, Comrade Kiseleva did not say who was involved, which branch of the service. If we were to speak, for example, about rocket troops, many of them did not do any firing at all because only a few units are involved in firing training.

[Ostrovskiy] The restructuring within our Army is apparently not to everybody's liking, especially not to those people who have gotten used to the existing way of doing things. Did you not hear that in the West they are even contemplating the possibility of a military coup in our country?

[Yazov] I am glad that you do not ask when it will take place and who will head it. Disseminating such rumors is futile. Among the rumormongers abroad are also people who wish that the Soviet Armed Forces were not a component of the Soviet people and did not live in harmony with the people's interests. As can be seen, stereotypes still survive that are, in my opinion, on the level of the times when one was still firing muskets. One can fire muskets and they make lot of noise, but the bullet does not have a great range.

[Ostrovskiy] Does it not worry you that the sharpest criticism of the Army came from the officer deputies? Why did you not discuss such shortcomings in Army life?

[Yazov] The officer deputies did the right thing when they drew attention to problems, but they only spoke about what they were aware of in their unit or okrug. I, as a minister, possess more composite information. I do not close my eyes to details, but I also must see variants, perspectives, and ways for making decisive changes within the Army, so that many shortcomings can be dealt with. At the same time, my primary task is to see to strengthening the country's defense capability and to the Army's necessary and adequate combat preparedness by developing quantitative indicators regarding the equipment of all branches of the service. We are not satisfied with the existing situation, and therefore we have begun with restructuring within the Army. Add to that problem the reduction of the Army's numerical strength and of conventional weapons, the total scrapping of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, the withdrawal of tanks, artillery, and aircraft from central Europe.... Do not forget that together with this we are changing the structure of our formations and the entire Army, which is acquiring an exclusively defensive character. Each one of these problems requires a special approach, and each one of them several solutions. We must find an optimal, that is, most effective solution that would guarantee our security without unnecessary great costs, without impairing the security of any other state. This is the concept of our doctrine, which I spoke about when answering the deputies' questions.

[Ostrovskiy] In many Western countries which have a multiparty political system the army stands outside political activity. In Western parliaments there are no soldier deputies. Do you not think that this is comfortable for the army? Deputies obtain all their information from a minister, and no one in the army criticizes him.

[Yazov] I am convinced that when the army is the component of the people—and in the Soviet Union this is the case—it is impermissible to deprive it of its political rights, which the Constitution grants to all our citizens. My opinion is that it is not only useful to account for oneself before deputies, including soldiers, with regard to myself, I also consider this to be an honor. I presume that the work of the parliamentary defense and state security committee will assist the Army. The Soviet people have entrusted us soldiers with the task of safeguarding their security and independence. And, above all, not permitting war to break out. And we must—and this is logical—account to the Supreme Soviet, elected by the people, for the way in which we have been fulfilling our duties. This is the duty of a minister, as well as of any ranking official.

[Ostrovskiy] What have you gained that is of use to you from the hearing?

[Yazov] First of all, the knowledge that the USSR Supreme Soviet is a mature and exacting legislative body, and it seems that its demands will grow. At the same time I have understood that it is necessary to systematically inform the Supreme Soviet, so that it would be prepared to assess all military issues competently. In the past, many things in our country were "covered up," secret. Everything used to be resolved in a narrow circle. Not infrequently, unfortunately, behind closed doors. In cases like these, deformations and mistakes can occur, the diapason of variants to resolve problems becomes narrowed down. This did not contribute to the development of democratic thinking about military issues, which in its final consequence has negatively affected the standard of command cadres, their creative thinking, the upbringing of a commander as a personality. Today we are abandoning exaggerated secretiveness. I presume that glasnost will consolidate security by enabling broad strata of the Soviet people to jointly participate in strengthening it, and consciously contribute to supporting our defense capability.

Students Hold Hunger Strike at Military Camp

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[Article by Colonel A. Polyakov under the rubric "Report in the Field!": "Hunger Strike Declared by Kiev Medical Institute Students at Training Course at Kiev Military District Garrison"]

[Text] What was the reason for this? First there was a protest about the poor standard—in the students' opinion—of specialized medical training. A day later demands emerged for permission to be given to visit the city after exercises, to swim in the nearby river, and to replace examinations with a test.... But when Colonel General B. Gromov, commander of Kiev Military District, and Lieutenant General V. Sharygin, member of the Military Council and chief of the District Political Directorate, arrived to meet with the students, the demands acquired different overtones.

"Is a doctor entitled to kill?" one of the students asked bluntly, and I think everyone clearly understood the thrust of the question—that the concepts of physician and officer are allegedly incompatible.

But let's follow the chronology of events. One evening a patrol on the territory of a military settlement met two course students breaking the clothing regulations: Their jackets were slung over their shoulders and their caps were stuffed inside their belts. When this was pointed out to them they were by no means apologetic and, as a result, wound up in the garrison's cells. Some time later they were released at the request of a group of students.

Nonetheless, the very fact that students were held in the cells angered many people. By morning telegrams had been written and sent to certain mass media offices in Moscow announcing the start of a hunger strike to protest the...unsophisticated military training curriculum.

...The meeting between the students and the district commander lasted more than an hour. At their request the students then met separately with journalists—VECHERNIY KIEV and KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondents—for around 2 hours. When feelings had died down, at the request of student L. Tedoradze new telegrams were compiled and sent to the same addresses announcing the end of the hunger strike (essentially, it had only just started—the students had missed dinner). The "alarm signal" to the corps of journalists was canceled.

That was actually the entire incident. But, listening to the speeches from the rostrum at the garrison Officers' Center, one could not help asking why the remarks, complaints, and demands about the organization of military training (and some of them were well founded) had turned into a conflict, and at a time when the future reserve officers had donned military uniform? Why were these sore points not raised at the institute with the rector or the chief of the military faculty?

"At field camp we were able to join together," student I. Omelchuk frankly admitted. "But there had been dissatisfaction before too...."

Well, maybe there was. But I think this is just part of the truth. The other part is that the taking of the military oath and the gaining of a military uniform bring with them then not just rights but important duties, each person is given greater responsibility. And—let's make no bones about it—this does not suit everybody.

One other point. The process of democratization and glasnost is seen by some as giving them carte blanche. Some people's common sense changes and emotions are given free rein. This case too was not without its emotional excesses.

Clearly, the fact that the students were campaigning for the military training program to be revised is entirely justified. But were the methods they chose justified?

But the military faculty collective's shortcomings must be discussed in equally principled fashion. For instance, I did not notice any signs of particular closeness or mutual understanding between teachers and students. Moreover, during the course of our conversation it transpired that the new teaching program is virtually ready and is about to be implemented at the institute. It is reasonable to ask why the students are only learning this now.

I would not like to touch here upon the question of abolishing the military faculty altogether. Only because it will not reflect the general opinion. Student S. Shamko officially stated from the rostrum in the presence of the district command that nobody has the right to ask this question of anyone.

It seemed to me that the overwhelming majority of students were sincerely concerned about the shortcomings in the organization of teaching and the standard of their vocational training. They complain particularly that for a considerable part of the time—even in the field—they study theory, that the experience of military physicians in Afghanistan is studied very poorly, that they are examined in subjects which they passed 2 years ago....

"They're right about that too," I was told in conversation by Lieutenant Colonel I. Zhivago, who, incidentally, is the only officer in charge of training reserve officers at the military faculties of dozens of higher educational establishments located on the district's territory. "This is not so much the fault of the faculty itself, although its share of the blame cannot be denied, as it is the result the result of the sluggishness of some of our staffs and directorates. New programs have been under development in some offices somewhere for more than 18 months now, yet we still continue to use the language of old documents in our dialogues with students. Yet, at the same time, we are talking about perestroyka from every rostrum. As for the specific events, everyone can learn lessons from them—after all, this is a state issue and a highly important matter, and the approach to it should be just as responsible."